BEST YARN FOR BLANKETS *Revealed!*

Simply Crochet

Summer lace bunting!

HERE COMES THE SUNFLOWER!

PATTERNS • IDEAS • YARN • INSPIRATION • TECHNIQUES

ISSUE ONE HUNDRED & THIRTY SEVEN

87 PATTERNS & IDEAS

FLOWER POWER

BRIGHT MAKES FOR HAPPY HOOKS!

Wear with Pride!

RAINBOW PARTY BROOCH

WE BACKED BIPOC in fiber

BEACH READY CROCHET

Hello SUMMER!

- CUTE ELEPHANT TOY
- MOHAIR CARDI
- GINGHAM BLANKET
- ONE SKEIN SHAWL
- & MUCH MORE

VISIT…

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WEST YORKSHIRE SPINNERS

Sun Dance

A new and exclusive collection of six crochet designs by Cassie Ward. Discover the Elements range and your local stockist at **wyspinners.com**

sales@wyspinners.com 01535 664500

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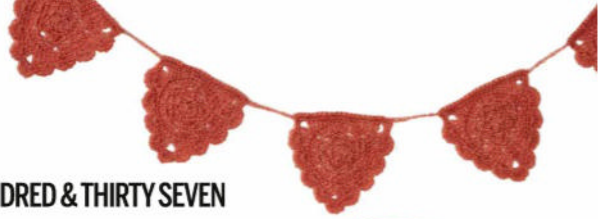
Simply Crochet

Hey there, sunshine! If you're enjoying the warmer weather as much as we are, you'll find plenty of ways to celebrate it inside, from picnic blankets and summer shawls to a swimsuit and this bright, smiling sunflower.

Simply Crochet

Make lacy bunting on p71



ISSUE ONE HUNDRED & THIRTY SEVEN

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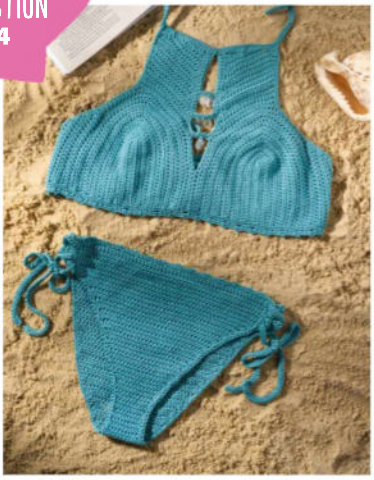

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Rest and relaxation

Everyone says it, but it's true – the world we live in is moving so fast! I know I need to consciously try to move slower, stay in the moment and appreciate the little things. Personally, I like to do this through mindful crocheting. I've been slowly savouring the process of making Esme Crick's blanket on page 14, as well as Lorraine Stephenson's beautiful mandala on page 64. But I'm still up for a quick make – Lisa Hendry's lacy bunting on page 71 will do the trick! How do you stay grounded? Share on Instagram with the tag #sctreblemaker, or on Facebook group Simply Crochet SCtreblemakers. We love to see your makes!

Sara

CONTRIBUTORS

Meet a few of the talented designers in this issue...

"Nothing is hard, only new"

MICHAEL CAO

Michael is a paediatric dentist and crochet artist whose joy is making others smile, and he hopes his creations will bring about smiles all over the world. Check out his ami' sunflower on page 31.

"If you can dream it, you can hook it!"

LAUREN WILLIS

Lauren is a designer and tech editor from Gravesend, UK. She specialises in adult garments, and has a soft spot for all things filet. Find her fabulous blockbuster vest on page 26.

"Crochet keeps me sane and happy!"

MARTINE DE REGT

Martine is Dutch, lives in the UK and is mum to two boys. She loves amigurumi and crocheting little projects in bright colours. Make her fun and colourful motif picnic bag on page 67.

"Crochet is my happy place!"

LISA HENDRY

Lisa is the designer, maker and creator behind Tilly Mint Creates. She sells her patterns online and works from her studio in Cheshire. Turn to page 71 to check out her lacy bunting.

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Hannah Barker, Natalie Beard, Johan Björnfot, Clare Blowers, Lily Chin, Esme Crick, Helen Dorritt, Colette Earley, Andreia Pereira Ferreira, Jenny May Forsyth, Joanne Fowler, Maria Jęczmyk, Emma Leith, Cara Medus, Marianne Rawlins, Lisa Richardson, Lorraine Stephenson, Becky Skuse, Eleonora Tully, Catherine Venner

Simply Crochet

Editor Sara Huntington
Art Editors Claire Watkins, Julie Adams, Jude Curle
Production Editor Alison Maney
Technical Editor Paula Green
Editorial and Digital Assistant Claudia Trotman
Cover Photography Steve Sayers
Photography Dave Caudery, Kaden Gardener, Steve Sayers

ADVERTISING
Call 0117 300 8206
Business Development Manager UK and International Rachael Hawkins
Senior Brand Sales Executive Jessie Dolman

MARKETING & SUBSCRIPTIONS
Senior Direct Marketing Executive Kate Jones

CIRCULATION
Head of Newstrade Marketing Martin Hoskins
Newstrade Marketing Manager Janine Smith
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PRODUCTION
Senior Production Coordinator Katty Skarden
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Group Production Manager Louisa Molter
Production Director Sarah Powell

BUYING TEAM
Karen Flannigan

LICENSING
Director of International Licensing & Syndication Tim Hudson

PUBLISHING
Head of Content Gail Shortland
Publishing Director Liz Taylor
Managing Director, Bristol Andy Marshall
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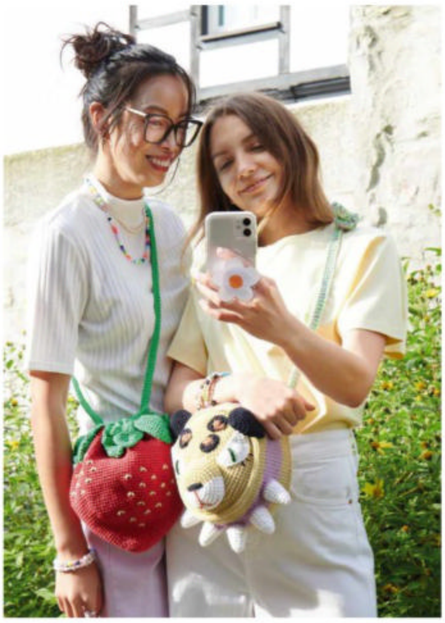
RICO DESIGN

JUST BAGS + THINGS + CRAZY STUFF



JUST BAGS + THINGS + CRAZY STUFF

CREATIVE COTTON ARAN

In our new publication JUST BAGS + THINGS + CRAZY STUFF we show crazy accessories for fashionistas and it-girls. Whether bags as trendy poodles and wild leopards or pot holders in bubble shape with funny faces - the cool bags, rucksacks and pot holders definitely have the potential to be favourites! All pieces are crocheted with our Creative Cotton aran yarn - get your publication and yarn now and discover your favourite piece.

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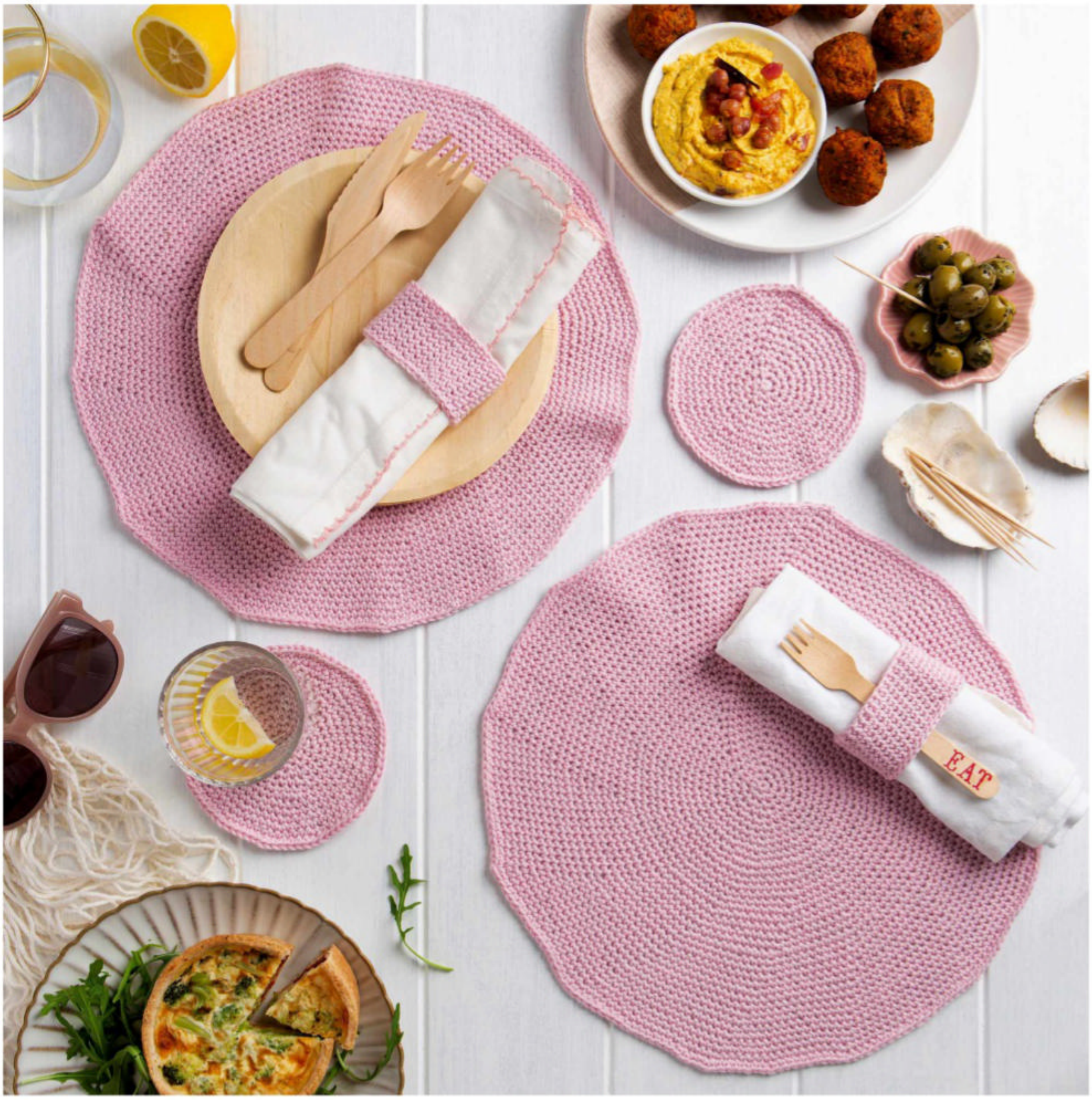
Hooked

IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



Find your happy place

Invite a friend around to dine al fresco, arrange a restaurant-worthy date night or just lay the table for a family meal at home – find any excuse to use this simple yet elegent set of placemats, coasters and napkin rings from Wool Couture! The Place Setting for Two Crochet Kit costs £22.99. Choose from nine shades at www.woolcouturecompany.com

SO SWEET

TOFT's new Confectionary kits are a real treat! Choose from Macarons in a Tin, Doughnuts in a Tin and Meringues in a Tin – as you may have guessed, each kit comes in a delectable keepsake tin with enough yarn to make either a cute character or a few realistic-looking treats. Buy individual kits for £18 each or get all three for £48 when you visit www.toftuk.com

FULL MOON RISING

▼ This simple yet effective Sun, Moon & Mountain wall hanging is a great way to get into crochet colourwork. The abstract design is a sophisticated art piece, too; we picture it in a plant-filled bedroom or hanging beside gold-rimmed mirrors in a glam yet tastefully decorated living room. To download the free pattern, visit www.yarnspirations.com, and visit www.creativecraftingworld.co.uk for all the Red Heart Super Saver yarn you'll need.

GOOD TO THE LAST DROP

Cygnet's new Cotton Drops arrives this month, and we couldn't be more excited! Described as "squidgy yet robust," this chunky tape-style yarn works up quickly and is great for projects that need to be light but hard-wearing and voluminous – think bags (like this fun granny square handbag) and homewares such as cushion covers, baskets and beanbags. The yarn is tubular and lighter than other cotton tape yarns, and has a slightly stretchy quality. You can find the yarn in six stylish shades, including Thunder Grey, Light Ocean, Sweet Pink, Merigold, Lavender Haze and Linen White, all of which come in 200g donut balls. Find the range – as well as the above bag pattern – at www.cygnetyarns.com

New release

Good buy

Here's a yarn with a difference – or, should we say, a yarn that makes a difference. King Cole will donate all proceeds from the sale of their new Baby DK yarn to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), a cohort of 15 leading aid charities that work together to quickly send funds to places in crisis. The company originally created the yarn to support those affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Outside companies involved in producing this yarn – including printers in the UK and spinners in Turkey – have also pledged to make contributions to help victims of the earthquake. The new premium acrylic yarn comes in six shades that are perfect for baby makes. Find out more at www.kingcole.com

King Cole
Baby
DK

Crochet hacks with Lily Chin

REDISCOVERING THE SLIP KNOT

I'm Lily, and I've been teaching yarncrafts internationally since 1989. I was named to the Crochet Hall of Fame in 2015 and have been involved in some aspect of the fashion industry since age 13, designing for magazines and yarn companies since 1982 and working for designers such as Ralph Lauren and Diane von Fürstenberg. I was officially named 'fastest crocheter in the world' in a 2002 international competition and have authored books on knitting and crochet since 1999. I've made hundreds of appearances on television and in print media, and am on the season 13 and 14 cast of PBS' *Knit and Crochet Now!* But most of all, I'm proud of my teaching skills. Come and learn with me!

So you think you know how to make a slip knot. But do you really? There are actually two types of slip knot – we'll call them A and B. Type A is when the tail end of the yarn closes the knot. Type B is when the yarn end closes the knot.

If you work your slip knot in the manner shown in illustration 1, you'll get Type A. The result is depicted in illustration 2 – the tail gets longer when the knot gets smaller.

The method shown in illustration 3 is Type B. Illustration 4 is the result – notice how the tail remains the same length when the knot gets smaller?

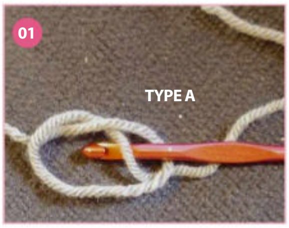
So, why does it matter? Well, if you create a Type A slip knot, the beginning of the chain can become distorted. Compare the very first chain (next to the slip knot) made in illustration 5 (Type A) versus the one in illustration 6 (Type B). In illustration 5, if the tail was to be yanked on, that very first chain could distort and become too small to work into. After working into the chain, it could become too large, and at the very end, it could just be too malleable.

So, in most instances, it can be better to rely on a Type B slip knot. However, in the next article, you'll find a use for a Type A slip knot and discover how it can actually be desirable.

For more from Lily, follow her on Facebook at Lily M Chin, on Instagram at @lilymchin, and on Twitter at @LilyMChin1.

NEXT ISSUE Your beginning ring

01



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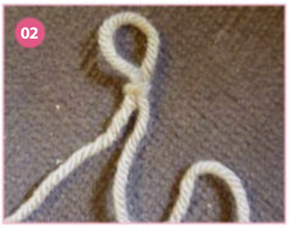

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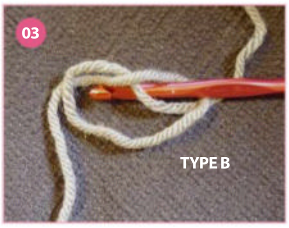

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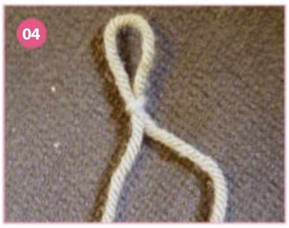

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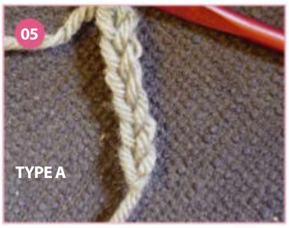

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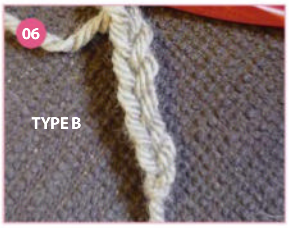


EXCLUSIVELY FOR SUBSCRIBERS!

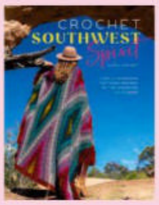
SUBS STARS!

Every month, three subscribers win a prize as thank you for their loyalty to *Simply Crochet*. This month, the winners (below) will each receive an 18-ball bundle of Stylecraft Special Aran, worth over £45, to make a gorgeous floral blanket and matching cushion. Enjoy!

Laura Evemy, Devon
Louise Gather, Derby
Debora Pultrone, Chesterfield

Our Media Limited (an Immediate Group Company) publishers of *Simply Crochet*, Subs Stars giveaway Terms and Conditions. Prizes were dispatched before the on sale date of this issue. There are no cash alternatives. Three winning entries will be chosen at random from all current subscribers. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

INSPIRING BOOKS



CROCHET SOUTHWEST SPIRIT

SUSAN KENNEDY

(£16.99, David & Charles)

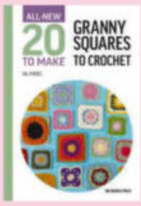
Express your love for the American Southwest with a collection of projects inspired by the landscapes and culture of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Arizona. The beginner-to-intermediate patterns will have you making colourful, geometric and laid-back homewares and garments. Many of the projects use natural cotton and wool produced by indigenous artists and shepherds, too.

CROCHET RAGDOLL FRIENDS

SASCHA BLASE-VAN WAGTENDONK

(£18.99, Rowman & Littlefield)

Make 36 brand-new ragdolls with this handy book. You'll find a menagerie of floppy animals, from flamingos to reindeer to dinosaurs, as well as a couple of human characters. They're great stashbusters and will delight any and every kid on your to-stitch-for list. You can even hook mama and baby versions of certain animals! So cute.



ALL-NEW 20 TO MAKE: GRANNY SQUARES TO CROCHET

VAL PIERCE

(£6.99, Search Press)

If you're as excited for Granny Square Day as we are (roll on, 15 August!), you can get a head start with this set of 20 colourful squares. You'll also learn how to turn your squares into five fun and useful projects, including a potholder, a retro pillow cover and fingerless gloves. This tiny tome is the perfect size for your project bag, too, so you can take it with you for stitching sessions on the go.

MOSAIC KNITTING WORKSHOP

ASHLEIGH WEMPE

(£16.99, David & Charles)

You've tried mosaic crochet, but what about mosaic knitting? If you know how to knit, purl and slip a stitch, you already know enough to start making your first mosaic knit project. This book outlines the basics with step-by-step instructions and diagrams – then, you'll use your newfound skills to make 15 different projects, including wraps, blankets and more.

GO GRANNY

Hooking up granny squares has never been easier! Katia's new Fair Cotton Granny yarn has been specially designed to make it look like you've changed yarn colours as you go around and around your square. The motifs you make will vary, yet will coordinate well with each other. Use this yarn to create easy-to-make, colourful clothes, such as the Kids Square Dress above. Get the yarn for £20.99 per 150g ball, the dress pattern for £2.99 or the full kit for £44.97 at www.katia.com/uk

MAKE IT TOGETHER

▼ Treat yourself to a weekend of colour and crafty fun by signing up to the new Gilliangladrag retreat at the Fluff-a-torium studio in Surrey. The three-day retreat, held from 24-26 November 2023, will feature both felting and crochet workshops, with crochet instruction by Ellen Deckers, aka ByPollevie, author of *Pollevie Style*. You'll learn new techniques and, at the end, you'll have a felted and crochet cushion or bag to take home with you. Visit www.gilliangladrag.co.uk

SMALL BUT MIGHTY

Are you amigurumi crazy? Then you're in luck – Knitcraft by Hobbycraft has just released their new Tiny Friends range of mini yarn balls, perfect for when you need small amounts of different-coloured yarn to create ami' toys! You'll find an amazing 27 colours in the range, with shades that would suit different skin tones and hair colours as well as animal fur and scales. There's even a variety of greens – ideal for amigurumi potted plants! Each 25g ball costs £1 and contains 72.5m of yarn. It's also made of 50% cotton and 50% acrylic fibres, meaning it's soft yet sturdy, which is just what you need when making soft toys that might get chucked around by children (or adults). You'll want a 4mm hook when creating amigurumi dolls and stuffed animals with this yarn. Find the range and learn more at www.hobbycraft.co.uk

MINI MENAGERIE

Make a zoo's worth of teeny tiny animals with the new amigurumi Pouch Pals from Creative World of Crafts, part of the Knitty Critters collection. Hook up characters like Nugget the Cat, Bridget the Giraffe and Splashy the Whale. Each kit includes everything you need to make and finish these cuties – even the stuffing! They're suitable for beginners and measure 10cm when finished. Pick up a kit for just £4.99 from www.lovecrafts.com

Shop of the month

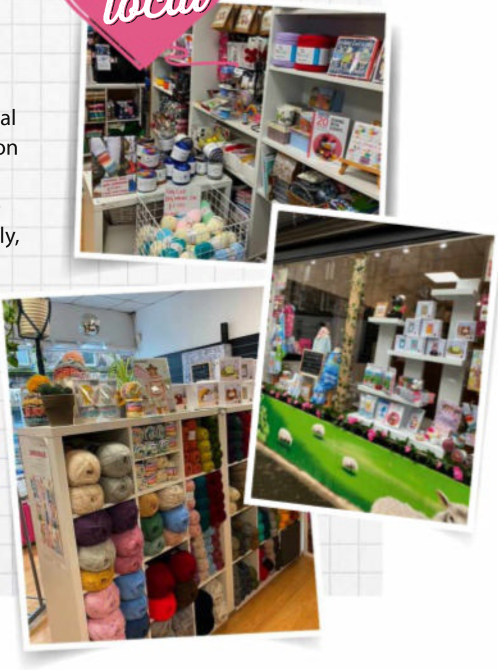
Threads Wool Shop

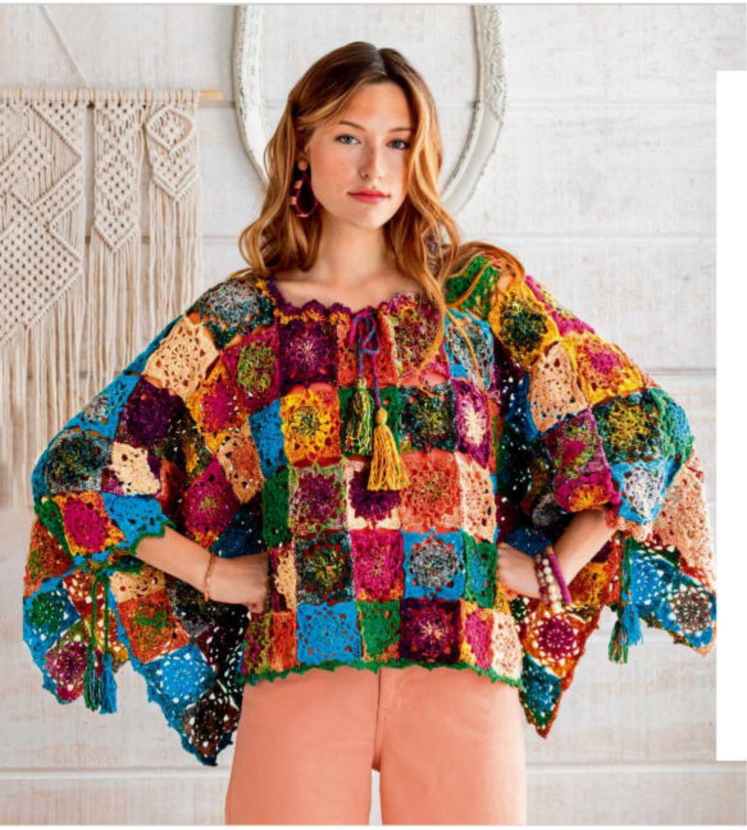
Shop local

Each issue we explore a UK yarn shop

Who's in charge? Linda McDonald.
Where can we find you? Dumbarton, the ancient capital of Strathclyde. We have our very own historic Dumbarton castle where Mary, Queen of Scots, was once held.
What is your shop like? In one word – beautiful! We're fabulous and have lots of choice, great prices and lovely, welcoming staff members.
What are your most popular products? Some of our most popular yarns are Baby Wool and Stylecraft.
What support do you offer? We have a fun Thursday evening craft group, and offer classes and workshops on how to crochet, as well as other crafts such as macramé and beginners' sewing. Plus, you can ask for help and advice on Facebook and Instagram!

143 Glasgow Road, Dumbarton, G82 1RQ
On Facebook as ThreadsWoolShopDumbarton
On Instagram at @Threads_Wool_Shop





FOREVER MAKES

Waves of changing colours and beautiful stitch patterns combine in the garments, homewares and accessories in this new book from yarn brand Noro. *Timeless Noro Crochet* contains 25 patterns for shawls, hats, blankets, tops and more. The projects are a mix of classic patterns and new creations, and use a wide range of techniques, so you'll find plenty to keep you interested! US crochet terms are used, so break out the handy conversion chart on page 86 to help translate. Find your local stockist at www.knittingfever.com, or buy it for £15 when you visit www.laughinghens.com

WELCOME ABOARD

Popular yarn retailer Wool Warehouse has added yet another stellar yarn range to its catalogue. Meet Kartopu, a well-known Turkish brand that's been in business for more than 50 years. Wool Warehouse will be stocking four yarns from the company: Melange Wool, a squishy and chunky acrylic and wool medley that comes in six shades and costs £3.99 per ball; Lotus, a light, cotton-like acrylic that comes in 35 colours at £3.79 per ball; No. 1, an anti-pilling aran yarn in 28 shades for £3.29 per ball; and Baby One, an acrylic yarn that's great for baby makes, comes in 18 shades and costs £2.62 per ball. Choose your favourites at www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Kartopu
Kartopu

Crochet community

Skills & events

16-18 JUN Mill Open Weekend
Free, South Molton
www.jarbon.com

17 JUN Make a wall hanger using intarsia
£51.20-64, Bristol
www.bristolfolkhouse.co.uk

23 JUN Broomstick crochet workshop
£64.95, Cheshire
www.blacksheepwools.com

24-25 JUN Cumbrian Wool Gathering
£10-15, Cumbria
www.cumbrianwoolgathering.co.uk

8-9 JUL Carry on Crafting Festival
£25, Ardingly
www.carryoncraftingfestival.co.uk

5 FAB FINDS

Flower field throws

Bring the outdoors inside with blossoming blankets

1

SWEETS FOR THE SWEET

If you really want to bring a flower garden into your home, this Macaroon Blossom Afghan is the make for you! The pattern for this project costs £7.58 from Etsy shop Apple Blossom Dreams or www.appleblossomdreams.com

2

SOFT SIGHS

The Painted Roses Blanket's perfectly matched pastels and flower motifs feel just like spring to us. Download the PDF pattern for £4.50 when you visit www.cherryheart.co.uk

WELCOME HOME

Pretty ruffled edges and endless tiny flower motifs make this a great gift for a new arrival. Get the Flower Baby Blanket pattern from JTeasycrochet on Etsy for £7.08.

3

4

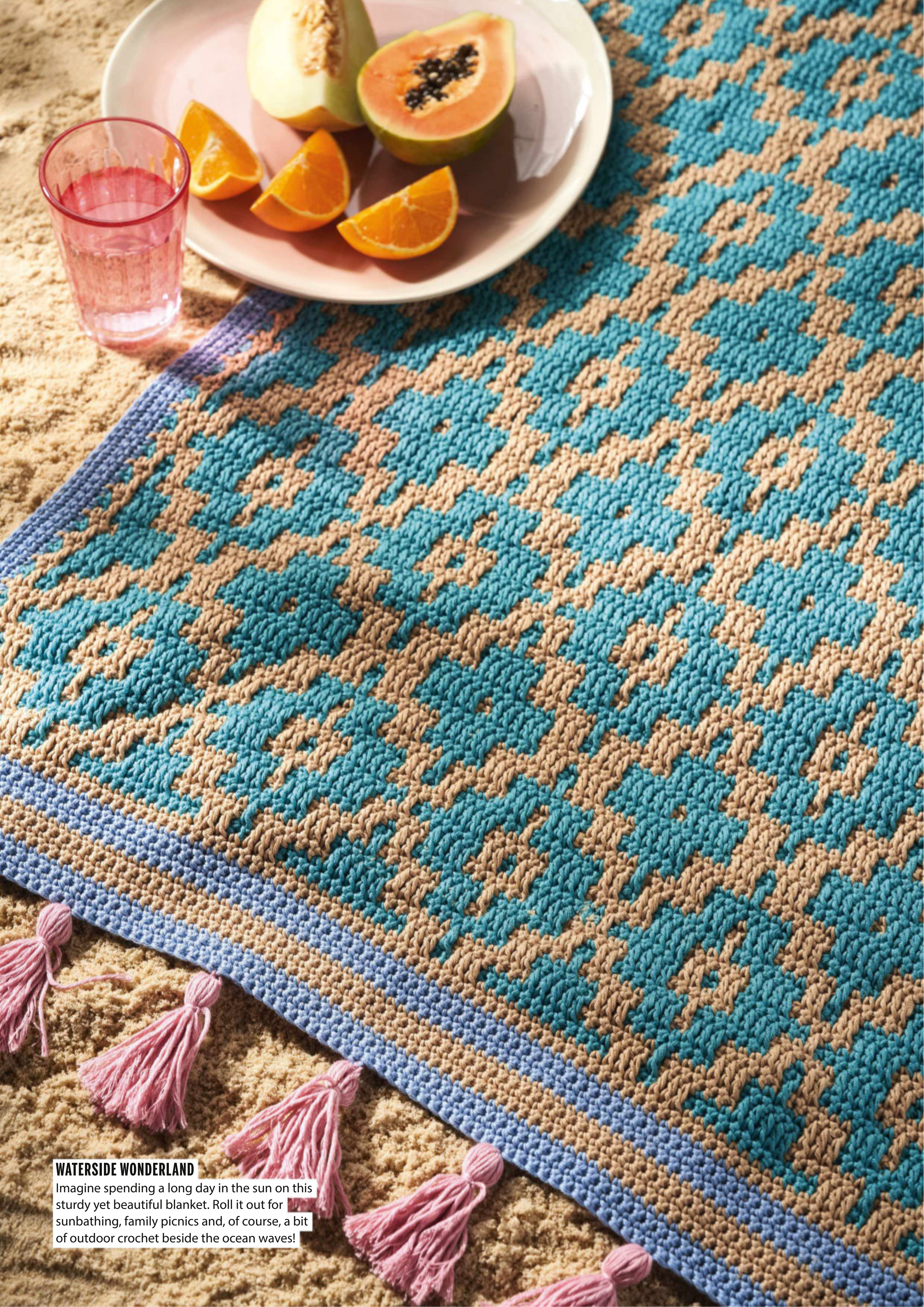
FLOWER CHILD

This baby blanket is completely made up of little flower motifs. It's like something out of a dream! Download the pattern for £4.43 when you visit byDaisies on Etsy.

LOVE ON TOP

If you like your florals with a folk art twist, try this Field of Flowers Baby Blanket from Etsy shop StitchES Crochet for £7.14. You'll add 11 different flowers to a green background.

5



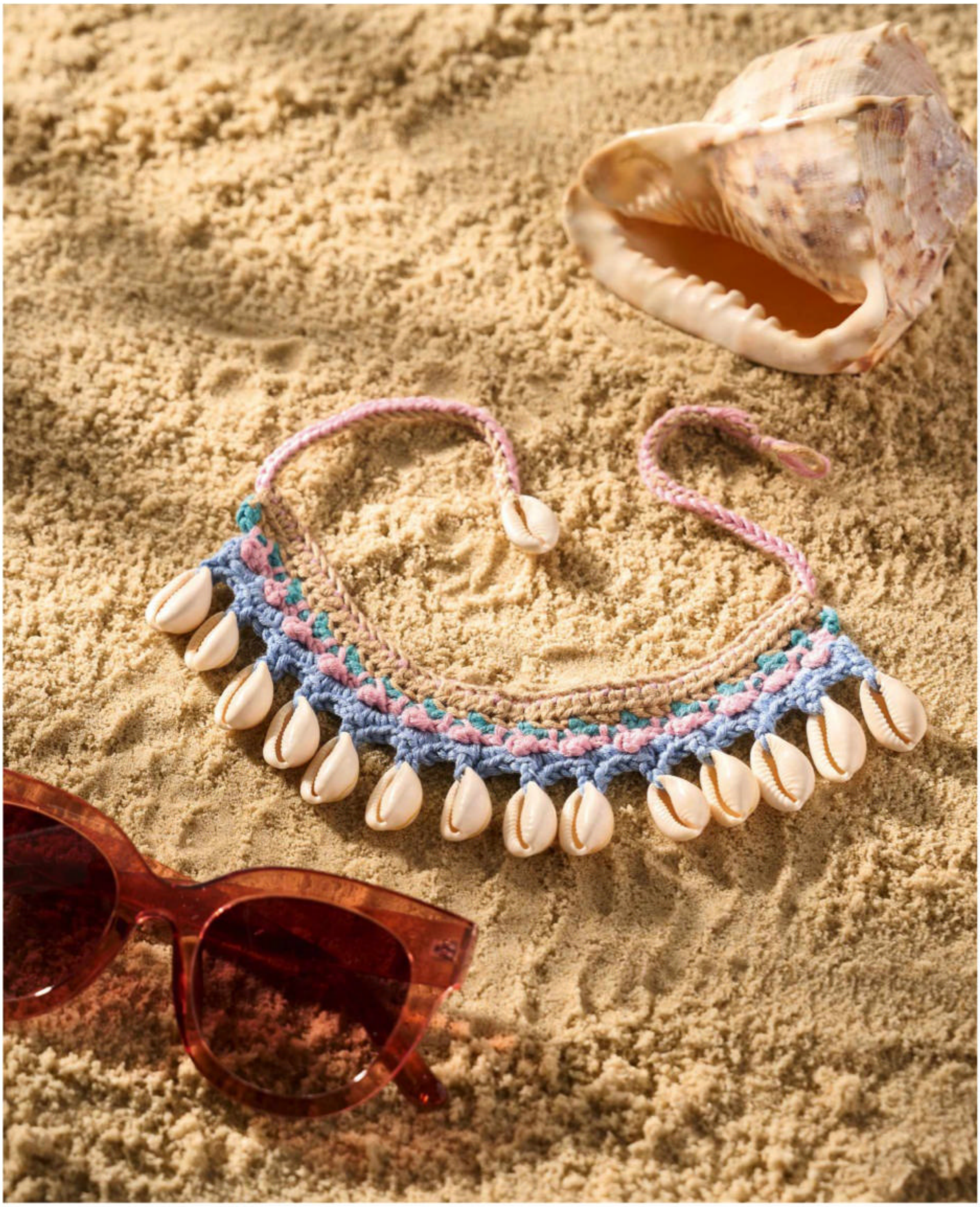
WATERSIDE WONDERLAND

Imagine spending a long day in the sun on this sturdy yet beautiful blanket. Roll it out for sunbathing, family picnics and, of course, a bit of outdoor crochet beside the ocean waves!

Yoga: a Manual for Life
Naomi Annand

Summer daze

Capture the joy and tranquillity of a day at the beach by hooking up these seaside essentials and summer treats

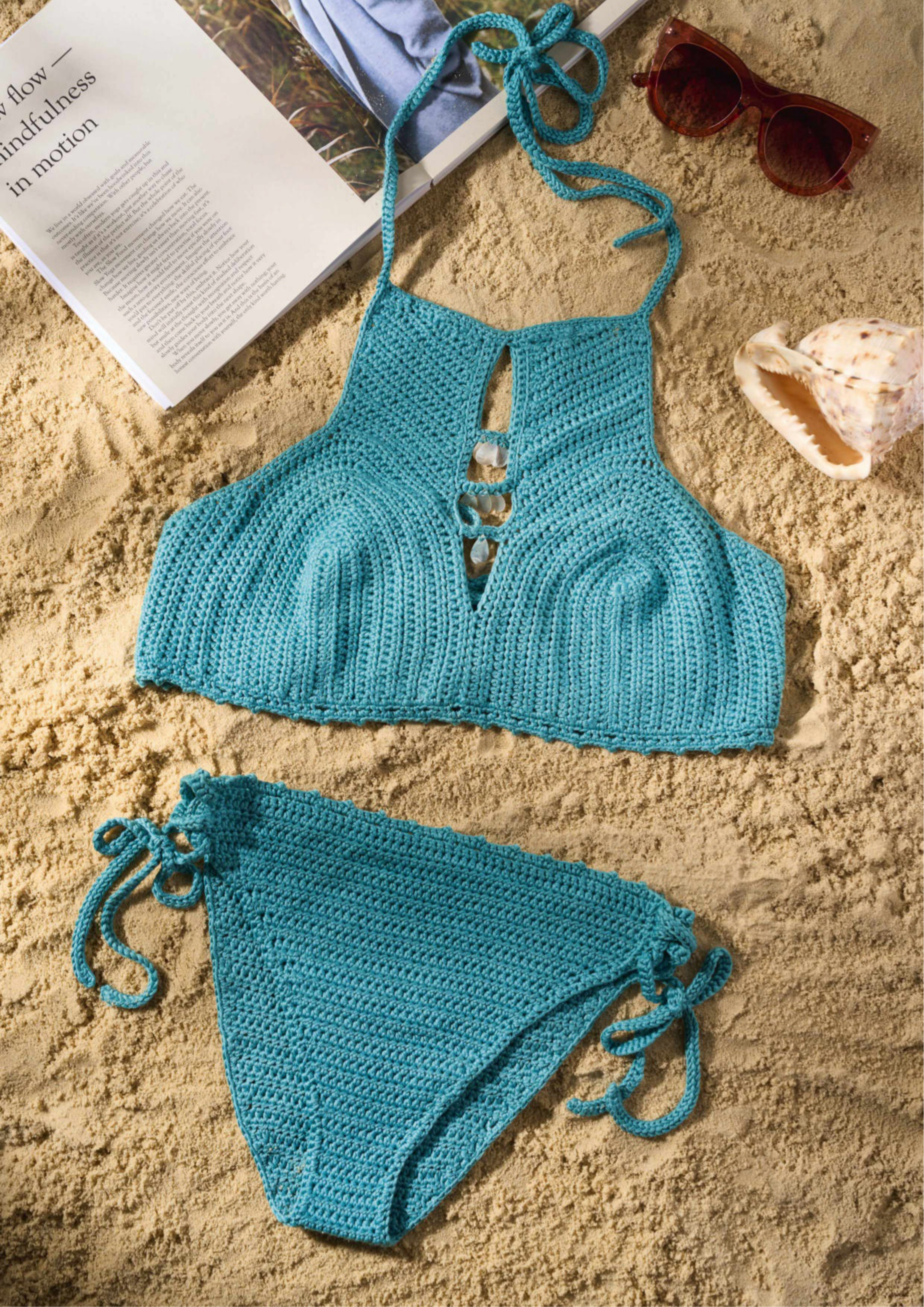


SHE SELLS SEASHELLS

Channel a zen surfer who's out to catch waves and rays with this summery seashell necklace. Hooked in pretty pastels and soothing neutrals, this trinket is sure to accompany you to many a seaside siesta.

BEACH BABE

Crochet bikinis have become the most coveted item of the summer – and now you can make your very own! With a halter-style top and adjustable sides on the briefs, it's as easy to wear as it is to love!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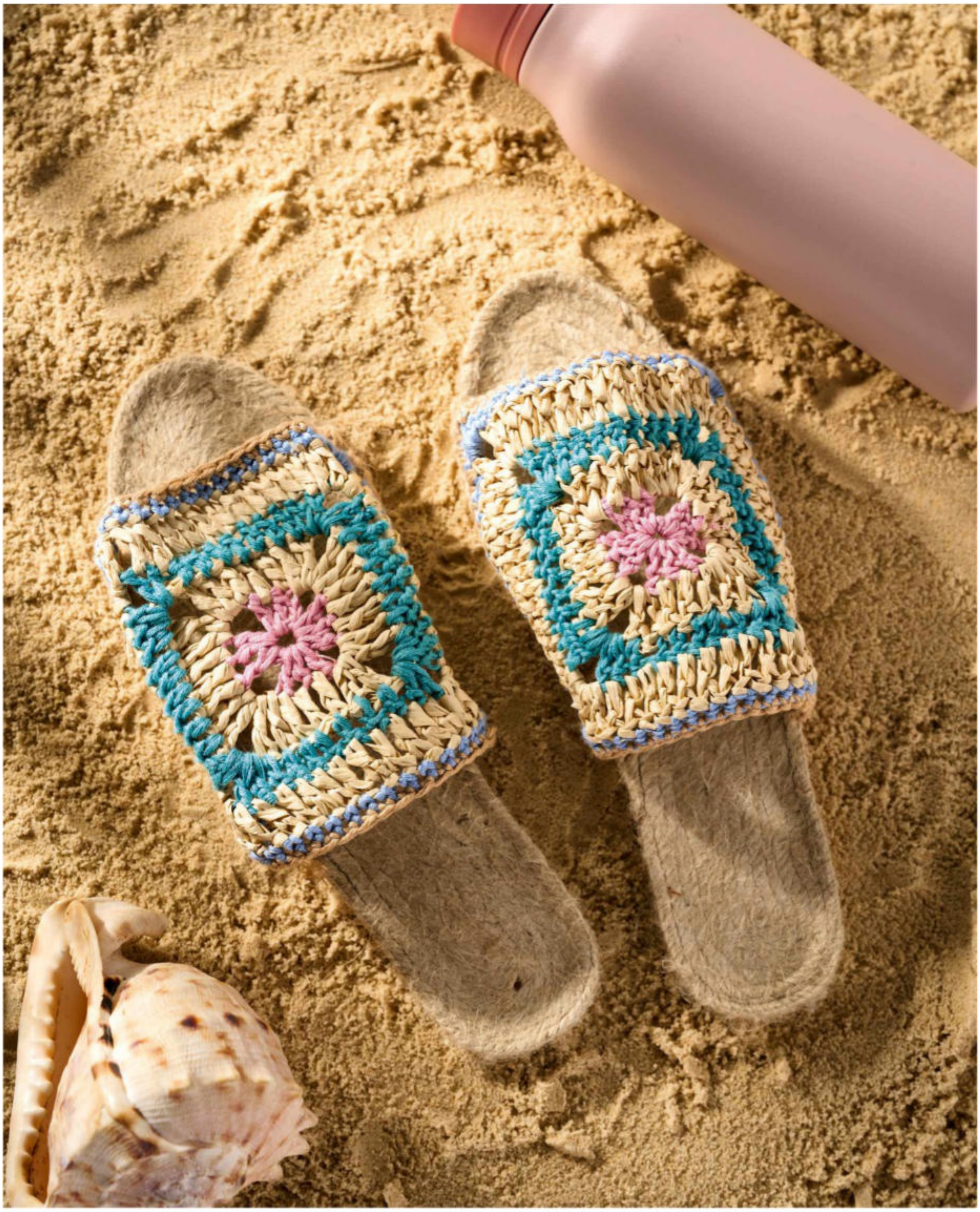


MADE IN THE SHADE

Whether you're at home or on holiday, protect yourself from the sun with this soft raffia hat. The curled brim and wavy band give it a distinctive boho vibe.

STEPPIN' ON THE BEACH

Do you like long walks on the beach? Stroll easily over the sparkling sand with these modified espadrilles, topped with easy-to-make granny square straps.

BEACH BLANKET

Geo print? Check. Beautiful colours? Check. Tassels? Check. Esme Crick's beach blanket is just what your summer holiday needs

- King Cole Bamboo Cotton (50% bamboo viscose, 50% cotton, 100g/230m), 3 balls of each: **Yarn B** Old Gold (625), **Yarn C** Sea Breeze (3331), 1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Denim (619), **Yarn D** Dusty Pink (618)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- A tassel maker

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx 60x100cm (26½x39½in) excluding tassels

ABBREVIATIONS

mtr (mosaic treble) Tr in skipped st of the same colour 3 rows below, working in front of the ch-sps on prev 2 rows

For a full list, see page 86

NOTES

Plain stripes in Yarns A and B are worked before and after the main mosaic crochet section, which is worked using Yarns B and C. The Blanket is then edged, and tassels are added to finish.

There is a Chart on page 88, which you will need to refer to. Each row needs to be read twice, once from right to left and then once from left to right. One colour is used on each row. The colour used on each row is shown by the colour of the first st. If a second colour appears on the row you need to skip the number of sts shown and work a ch for each skipped st plus 1. For example, if you skip 2 sts you will make a ch3. On the next row using that colour you will work an mtr into each skipped st. The first few rows of the Chart have been written out to guide you.

Do not fasten off the yarn when changing colour, the yarn can be carried up the side of the work to be joined on subsequent rows.

If you wish to adjust the width of the blanket, the pattern works to a repeat multiple of 18 + 6 for your starting chain, then follow the pattern from Row 1.

BEACH BLANKET

Using Yarn A, ch96.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [95 sts]

Rows 2-4 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in first st.

Rows 5-8 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A in first st.

Rows 9-12 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in first st.

Rows 13-14 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Change to Yarn C.

Row 15 Ch1, 1dc, ch2, skip 1 st, 6dc, ch4, skip 3 sts, 1dc, ch4, skip 3 sts, *11dc, ch4, skip 3 sts, 1dc, ch4, skip 3 sts; rep from * to last 8 sts, 6dc, ch2, skip 1 st, 1dc, turn.

Row 16 Ch1, 1dc, ch2, skip ch-2 sp, 6dc, ch4, skip ch-4 sp, 1dc, ch4, skip ch-4 sp, *11dc, ch4, skip ch-4 sp, 1dc, ch4, skip ch-4 sp; rep from * to last 8 sts, 6dc, ch2, skip ch-2 sp, 1dc, turn.

Change to Yarn B.

Row 17 Ch1, 1dc, 1mtr, ch4, skip 3 sts, 3dc, 3mtr, ch2, skip 1 st, 3mtr, 3dc, *ch6, skip 5 sts, 3dc, 3mtr, ch2, skip 1 st, 3mtr, 3dc; rep from * to last 5 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts, 1mtr, 1dc, turn.

Row 18 Ch1, 2dc, ch4, skip ch-4 sp, 6dc, ch2, skip ch-2 sp, 6dc, *ch6, skip ch-6 sp, 6dc, ch2, skip ch-2 sp, 6dc; rep from * to last 5 sts, ch4, skip ch-4 sp, 2dc, turn.

Change to Yarn C.

Rows 19-44 Cont in pattern set using the Chart as you work.

Rows 45-208 Rep Rows 17-44 another 5 times, then rep Rows 17-30

Change to Yarn B.

Row 209 Ch1,dc in each st and mtr in each skipped st to end, turn.

Row 210 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Change to Yarn A.

Rows 211-222 As Row 210, working 4 rows in Yarn A, 4 rows in Yarn B, and 4 rows in Yarn A.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

EDGING

Edging is worked along the 2 long edges of the Blanket. With RS facing, join Yarn A in bottom-right corner.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, (dc in next 3 row-ends, skip next row-end) rep to end, turn.

Rows 2-4 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Rep along opposite edge of Blanket.

TO FINISH

Using Yarn D, make 18 tassels.

Attach evenly across the short edges of Blanket.

Weave in any rem ends.

BEACH BAG

Natalie Beard's bag will keep all your seaside essentials safe, with plenty of room for suncream, water and your current WIP!

- King Cole Raffia (100% cellulose rayon, 50g/114m), 2 balls of Natural (1456)
- King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK (50% bamboo, 50% cotton, 100g/230m) 1 ball of Denim (619)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

TENSION

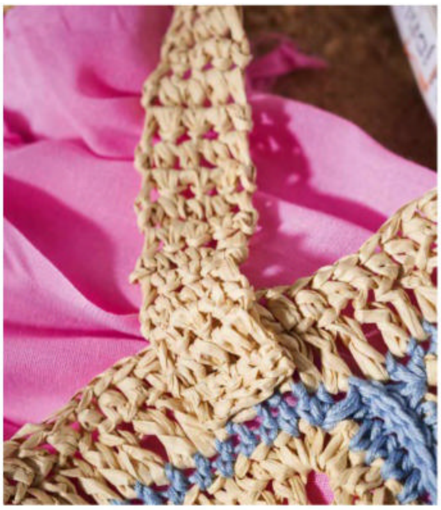
Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

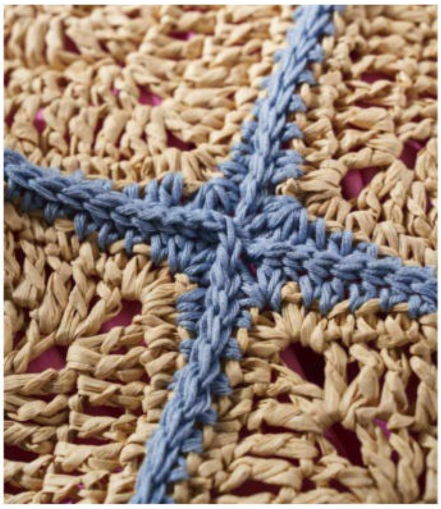
MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures approx 50x35cm (19¾x13¾in)

NOTES

Bag is made up of 12 Squares, which are sewn together. A Handle is worked separately and sewn in place at the end.





BEACH BAG

SQUARES (MAKE 12)

Using Natural, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3 *(counts as a tr throughout), 11tr in loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts]

Round 2 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, 2tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 sts]

Round 3 Ch3, tr in next 4 sts, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next st, tr in next 5 sts; rep from * twice more, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in final st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [36 sts]

Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), *dc in each st to ch-2 sp, (2dc, ch2, 2dc) in ch-sp; rep from * around, ss to beg dc. [52 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Denim in any st.

Round 5 Ch1, *htr in each st to ch-2 sp, (2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * around, ss to beg htr. [68 sts]

Fasten off.

HANDLES (MAKE 2)

Using Natural, ch5.

Row 1 Htr in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [4 sts]

Rows 2-50 Ch1, htr in each st across, turn.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Using Denim, sew 6 Squares together in a 3x2 formation. Rep with the remaining 6 Squares.

Place Panels together with RS facing out.

Join Natural in top-right and work next row through both pieces to join the sides and the base of the Bag.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in corner, 136dc evenly down short edge, 2dc in corner, 204dc evenly across base, 2dc in corner, 136dc evenly up short edge.

Work around the top of the bag in rounds.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, htr evenly around top of Bag, ss to beg htr.

Round 2 (RS) Ch1, htr in each st around, ss to beg htr.

Fasten off.

Sew the Handles to the top of the Bag.

NECKLACE

A beach collection isn't complete without shells! Emma Leith's choker beautifully combines soft yarn with pretty shell beads

- King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK (50% bamboo, 50% cotton, 100g/230m), 1 ball each of Old Gold (625), Sea Breeze (3331), Dusty Pink (618), Denim (619)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- 14 shell beads

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Necklace measures 44cm (17¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

picot Ch4, ss to forth ch from hook

join shell Remove loop from hook, thread loop through hole on shell bead and place back on hook

For a full list, see page 86

NOTES

When changing colour mid-row, twist ends together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch. Carry the unused strands of yarn across the WS of the work.

NECKLACE

Using a 4mm hook and 2 strands of yarn, make a cord as follows:

Leaving a starting tail of 15cm for both yarns, make a slip knot using Old Gold and place on hook. Using Dusty Pink, make a skip knot and place on hook alongside first slip knot. Pull second slip knot through first, leaving 1 loop of Dusty Pink on hook and Dusty Pink as working yarn. *Place hook over and behind Old Gold to

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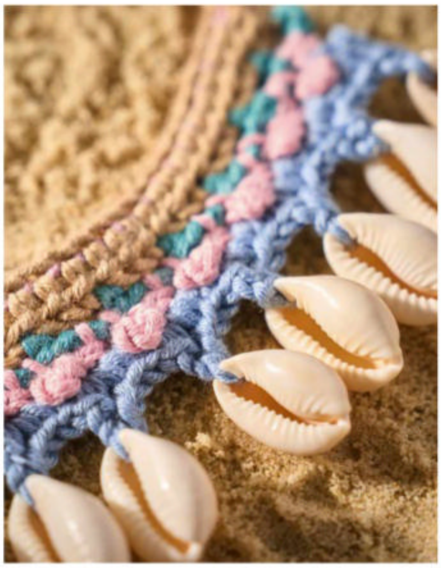
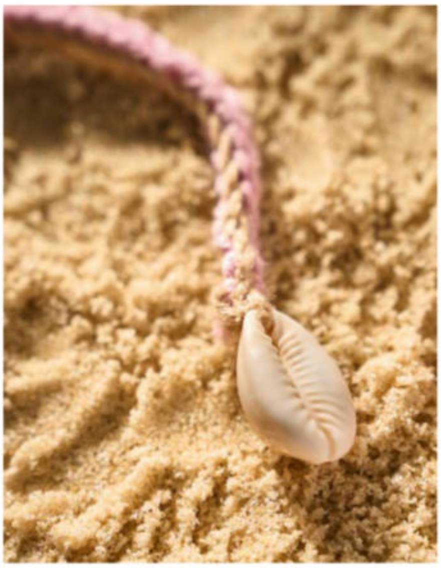




pick up so that the yarn hangs behind your hook, ch1 using Dusty Pink, pulling yarn through both loops on hook; repeat from * 105 times more. [106 sts]

Fasten off leaving 15cm long tails.

Join Old Gold in 31st st of cord,

Row 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as first htr), htr in next 45 sts, turn leaving remaining sts unworked. [46 htr]

Join Sea Breeze in first st of Row 1.

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in first st, *ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next st; rep from * across, turn. [15 ch-3 sps, 16 dc]

Fasten off.

With WS facing, join Dusty Pink in first ch-3 sp.

Row 3 (WS) Ch1, dc in first sp, (picot, dc in next ch-3 sp) rep across. [14 picots]

Fasten off.

With RS facing, join Denim in first dc.

Row 4 (RS) *Ch3, bring picot to RS, ss in next dc; repeat from * across.

Fasten off.

Rejoin Denim in first ch-3 sp.

Row 5 (RS) Ch1, *(2dc, ch2, join shell, ch1, ss to first ch of ch-2, 2dc in same ch-3 sp) repeat from * across.

Fasten off.

MAKE CLASP

Join shell to cord by threading one tail-end through shell and securing with a knot. Weave in ends.

Make a slip knot at other end using both tail ends held together and ensure opening can fit over shell. Tie ends together at base of slip knot to secure it and weave in ends.

BIKINI

Hook up Cara Medus' on-trend bikini to wear on long, languid days in the sun

- King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK (50% bamboo viscose, 50% cotton, 100g/230m), Sea Breeze (3331) – see table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook for edging
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- 7 shell beads (available from bit.ly/41LABgw)
- Stitch markers

TENSION

18 sts and 15 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over half treble crochet using a 3.5mm hook or size needed to obtain stated tension

ABBREVIATIONS

2-inc row Ch1, 2htr in first st, htr in each st to last st, 2htr in last st, turn [2 sts inc]

4-inc row Ch2 (does not count as st), (tr, htr) in first st, 2htr in next st, htr in each st to last 2 sts, 2htr in next st, (htr, tr) in last st, turn [4 sts inc]

fdc (foundation double crochet) To work the st before the gap, insert hook into st, *yrh and pull yarn through st, ch1, yrh and draw through both loops on hook.** To work fdc sts, insert hook into ch-1 of previous st and rep from * to **. On the last fdc of the gap, replace the ch-1 of the fdc with a ss into the st to be joined

For a full list, see page 86

NOTES

The sizing is intended to be flexible. You can make the Cups of the Top the size you need them, and then add the number of rows you need for the Bust Band. The Bust Band isn't intended to meet at the centre back, leaving a gap for a Tie. The Bottoms have Ties at the side to make the hip width adjustable. All pieces are sized to have negative ease, that is to say that they need to be smaller than actual body measurements in order to fit well. Blocking is recommended to help the centre detail and edging of the Top to lie evenly.

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22	24-26	28-30
TOP							
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127	132-137
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50	52-54
WIDTH OF TOP WITHOUT TIES	cm	70	80	90	100	110	120
	in	27.50	31.50	35.50	39.25	43.25	47.25
DEPTH	cm	24.50	26.50	28.50	30.50	32.50	34.50
	in	9.75	10.50	11.25	12.00	12.75	13.50
BOTTOMS							
TO FIT WAIST	cm	64-68	71-76	82-87	92-97	102-107	112-114
	in	25-26.5	28-30	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-45
WIDTH OF FRONT/BACK WITHOUT TIES	cm	27	31.5	38	42.5	47	51.5
	in	10.75	12.5	15	16.75	18.5	20.25
DEPTH	cm	25	26.5	28	29.5	31	32.5
	in	9.75	10.5	11	11.5	12.25	12.75
YARN	100g	2	3	3	3	4	4

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

BIKINI

BOTTOMS

BACK

With a 3.5mm hook, ch45 (53: 65: 73: 81: 89) loosely.

HIP SECTION

Row 1 (RS) Htr in second ch from hook (beg ch1 does not count as st), htr in each ch to end, turn. [44 (52: 64: 72: 80: 88) sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), htr in each st to end, turn.

Work 3 (3: 4: 5: 6: 6) more rows as Row 2.

LEG SHAPING

Next row Skip first st, ch1, dc in next st, htr to last 2 sts, dc in next st, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [Only htr sts count as sts to be worked for next row, so there are 40 (48: 60: 68: 76: 84) sts]

SIZES 8-10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-26 ONLY

Next row As Row 2. [40 (48: 60: 68: 76: -) sts]

Next row (Dec row) Ch1, htr2tog, htr in each st to last 2 sts, htr2tog, turn. [2 sts dec]

Rep last 2 rows 13 (10: 6: 3: 1: -) times more. [12 (26: 46: 60: 72: -) sts]

ALL SIZES

Next row (Dec row) Ch1, htr2tog, htr in each st to last 2 sts, htr2tog, turn. [2 sts dec]

Rep Decrease Row 0 (7: 16: 23: 28: 34) time more. [10 (10: 12: 12: 14: 14) sts]

Work 0 (1: 2: 1: 2: 2) more rows as Row 2. [35 (37: 40: 41: 44: 46) rows]

Do not fasten off.

FRONT

LEG SHAPING

***Next row** Ch1, htr in each st to end, turn.

Put a stitch marker in the end of this row to help with keeping track of the Front rows.

Rep last row 8 (7: 8: 7: 8: 8) times more.

Work 1 (2: 2: 3: 3: 4) 2-inc rows. [12 (14: 16: 18: 20: 22) sts, 10 (10: 11: 11: 12: 13) rows of Front]

*Work 2 (2: 2: 1: 1: 1) rows of htr without shaping foll by 3 (3: 3: 5: 5) 2-inc rows. Rep from * 1 (1: 1: 2: 1: 1) time more. [24 (26: 28: 36: 40: 42) sts]

Work 0 (1: 0: 0: 0: 0) row of htr without shaping foll by 0 (1: 2: 0: 0: 1) 2-inc rows. [24 (28: 32: 36: 40: 44) sts, 20 (22: 23: 23: 24: 26) rows of Front]

*Work 1 row of htr without shaping foll by 1 (1:

4: 4: 5: 5) 4-inc rows. Rep from * 3 (3: 1: 1: 1: 0) time more. [40 (44: 64: 68: 80: 64) sts]
Work 1 (0: 1: 0: 0: 0) row of htr without shaping foll by 1 (2: 0: 1: 0: 6) 4-inc rows. [44 (52: 64: 72: 80: 88) sts, 30 (32: 34: 34: 36: 38) rows of Front]

HIP SECTION

Work 5 (5: 6: 7: 8: 8) rows of htr without shaping, turn, do not fasten off.

TOP EDGING

****Row 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in first st, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [46 (54: 66: 74: 82: 90) sts]
Row 2 Ch1, *dc in next 2 sts, ch2, skip 2 sts; rep from and to last 2 sts, dc in last 2 sts, turn.
Change to 3mm hook.
Row 3 Ch1, *dc in next 2 sts, (dc, ch-2 picot, dc) in ch-2 sp; rep from * to last 2 sts, dc in last 2 sts, do not turn or fasten off.
Rotate to work in row-ends of Edging and Hip and Leg Section.
With 3mm hook, 10 (10: 13: 13: 16: 16) dc evenly into row-ends of Edging and Hip Section, then change to 3.5mm hook and dc evenly along Leg Shaping edges of Front and Back.**
When you reach the edging on the Hip Section, stop and place a marker in the working loop to prevent it unravelling.
With a second ball of yarn, rejoin in opposite side of foundation ch with RS facing. Rep Top and Leg Edging from ** to **, then when you reach the Hip Section, change to a 3mm hook and work 10 (10: 13: 13: 16: 16) dc evenly into row-ends, turn.
Cont with Rows 1 and 2 of Lacing Loops below.

LACING LOOPS

Row 1 (WS) Ch1, dc in first st, (ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next st) 3 (3: 4: 4: 5: 5) times, turn.
Row 2 (4dc in next ch-3 sp, ss in next dc) 3 (3: 4: 4: 5: 5) times.
Fasten off.
Return to stitch marker in live loop and replace 3mm hook in loop. Work dc along Hip Section edge as before and cont with Lacing Loops.
Fasten off.
Rejoin yarn with WS facing and 3mm hook on remaining Hip Section edges to work Lacing Loops.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TIES (MAKE 2)

With a 3.5mm hook, ch2, fdc beginning in second ch from hook until length measures 80 (80: 100: 100: 120: 120)cm when stretched (or length needed for fit required).
Fasten off, weaving ends back into ch. Lace through the loops at each side and tie.

TOP

BRA CUPS (MAKE 2)

With a 3.5mm hook, ch22.
Row 1 Htr in third ch from hook (skipped ch count as ch-2 sp), htr in each ch to end, turn. [20 sts and ch-2 sp]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), htr in each st, 6htr in ch-2 sp, rotate to work in opposite side of foundation ch, htr in each st of foundation ch, turn. [46 sts]
Row 3 Ch1, 22htr, 2htr in next st, pm in second of these sts, 2htr in next st, pm in first of these sts, htr in each st to end, turn. [48 sts]
Row 4 Ch1, htr in each st to end, working 2htr in each marked st and moving markers up to the 2 central sts in each row, turn. [50 sts]
Repeat Row 4 a further 9 (10: 12: 13: 15: 16) times. [68 (70: 74: 76: 80: 82) sts]
Fasten off and turn so that other side is facing for the next row.
The right-hand edge of the Cup will be at the centre. Count 17 (18: 19: 20: 21: 21) sts from right bottom edge and rejoin yarn in next st with ss.

HALTER TOP

Row 1 Ss in next st, dc in next st, htr2tog over next 2 sts, 17 (17: 18: 19: 20: 21) htr, turn. [21 (21: 22: 23: 24: 25) sts including joining ss]
Row 2 Ch1, 2htr in first st, 14 (14: 15: 16: 17: 18) htr, htr2tog over next 2 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [17 (17: 18: 19: 20: 21) sts]
Row 3 Ch1, htr2tog over first 2 sts, htr in each st to last st, 2htr in last st, turn.
Row 4 Ch1, 2htr in first st, htr in each st to last 2 sts, htr2tog over last 2 sts, turn.
Rep Rows 3 and 4 until Cup and these Top rows measure 23 (25: 27: 29: 31: 33)cm from base of Cup to highest point, ending with a Row 3.
This will be the length of the finished Top before adding the straps, minus 1.5 cm for the top and bottom edging. Adjust if desired at this point by adding or removing rows.

STRAIGHTEN TOP EDGE

Row 1 Skip first st, ss in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, htr in each st to last 2 sts, htr2tog over last 2 sts, turn. [15 (15: 16: 17: 18: 19) sts]
Row 2 Ch1, htr2tog, htr in each st to last 4 htr, dc in next 2 htr, ss in next 2 htr, turn. [10 (10: 11: 12: 13: 14) sts]
Row 3 Ss across to first htr, ss in first 2 htr, dc in each st to last 2 sts, htr2tog, turn. [3 (3: 4: 5: 6: 7) sts not including ss]
Row 4 Ch1, htr2tog, dc in next 2 sts, ss in next 2 sts.
Fasten off leaving rem sts unworked.

CENTRE DETAIL

Turn one Cup/Top piece over and align the centre edge of both Cups, sewing them together from the base over 11 (11: 12: 12: 13: 13) sts. This will leave 6 (7: 7: 8: 8: 8) sts of the Cup unworked before the sts of Row 1 of the Top.
Fasten off.
Taking whichever you choose to be the RS, rejoin yarn with RS facing to work down the central edge of the Top piece. Following instructions below, you will fdc to bridge the gap between the Cups (see Special Abbreviations) and back up the other side. You may need to adjust the number of fdc worked across the central gap; the aim is that the fdc sts form a curve when the piece is laid flat and the top corners meet in the centre:

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc evenly into row-ends of Top until you reach point at which Top piece meets Cup edge. For last of these dc, work an fdc before the gap, 7fdc, with the seventh st joining into other Cup on the opposite side at the same point, dc up central edge of Top piece, turn.
Row 2 (WS) Ch1, dc in fl to 5 (5: 6: 6: 7: 7) sts before first fdc, making the last of these dc an fdc before the gap. 6fdc, with last of these fdc joining into same point on opposite side, dc in fl to end, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, dc in bl to 5 (5: 6: 6: 7: 7) sts before next fdc, making last of these dc an fdc before the gap. 5fdc, with last of these sts joining into same point on opposite side, dc in bl in each st to end.
Fasten off. ☛

BUST BAND (MAKE 2)

You will rejoin yarn to outer edge of Cup to work on sts at lower edge of Cup. If the last row of the Cup is a WS row, make this next row a RS row and vice versa. For a RS row count 22 (22: 23: 23: 25: 25) sts from lower edge of Cup and join in the last of these sts. For a WS row start at lower edge of Cup and work over the next 22 (22: 23: 23: 25: 25) sts for the first row:

Row 1 Ch1, htr in each st, working a htr2tog over the 2 sts at the upper edge of the Band, turn. [21 (21: 22: 22: 24: 24) sts]

Rep Row 1 until there are 16 (16: 16: 19: 19: 19) sts rem. Now work in rows of htr without shaping until Band measures 35 (40: 45: 50: 55: 60)cm from central join of Cups when stretched, do not fasten off.

Next row Ch1, dc in first st, (ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next st) 5 (5: 5: 6: 6: 6) times.

[5 (5: 5: 6: 6: 6) lacing loops]

Fasten off.

Repeat for second Bust Band matching number of rows to first side.

TOP EDGING

Rejoin yarn with WS facing and a 3.5mm hook.

Row 1 (WS) Ch1, dc evenly into first top edge piece, cont with same number of dc along top of second piece, turn.

Row 2 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st to end.

Fasten off.

Any slight unevenness in this top edge will be neatened out with blocking.

LOWER EDGING

Rejoin yarn with RS facing and a 3.5mm hook.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc evenly along lower straight edge, working a multiple of 4 + 2 sts, turn.

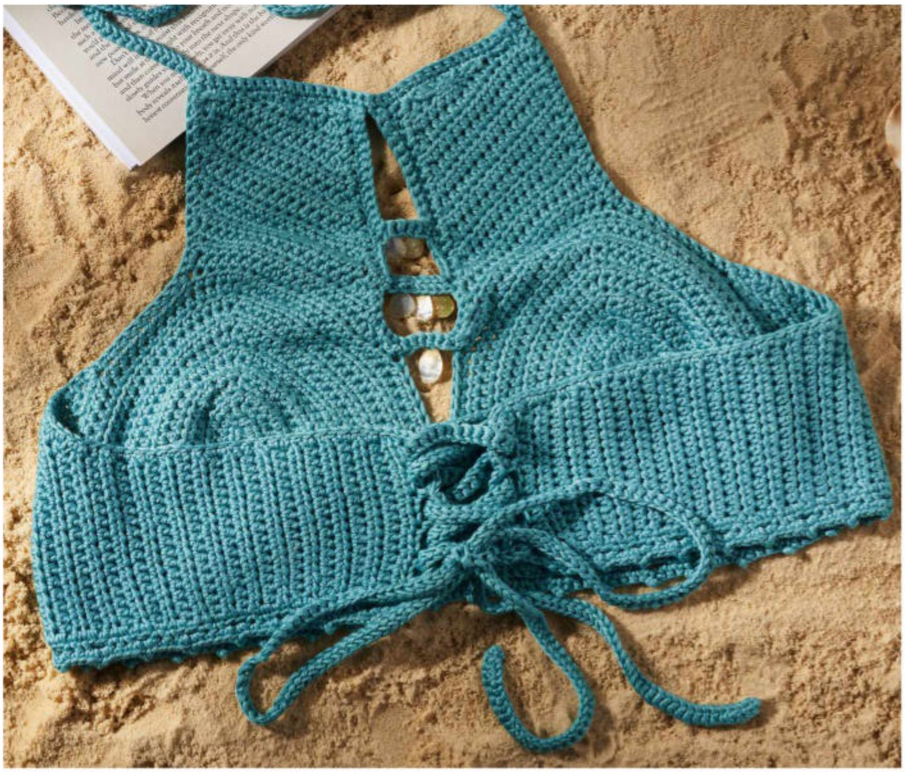
Row 2 Ch1, (dc in next 2 sts, ch2, skip 2 sts) rep to last 2 sts, dc in last 2 sts.

Fasten off.

EDGING AND NECK TIES

With a 3.5mm hook, ch2, fdc in second ch from hook and cont working fdc until length measures 60cm. Make the last of these fdc a stitch after the gap (see Special Abbreviations) to join the length to the upper right corner of the Top. Cont working dc evenly along the edge of the Top, around the Cup and along the top of the Bust Band. When you reach the lacing loops, change to a 3mm hook and work as Row 2 of the Lacing Loops. Cont with a 3mm hook to work along the bottom edge, working *dc in next 2 sts, (dc, ch-2 picot, dc) in ch-2 sp; rep from * to last 2 sts, dc in last 2 sts. Work in the same way in the lacing loops at the other end of the Band, then change back to a 3.5mm hook to dc evenly along the edge to the top of the Halter piece. Make the last of these dc a st before the gap and cont with a length of fdc for the Tie to match the length of the first.

Fasten off and weave the ends into the ties.



BACK TIE

Make a length of fdc as before to measure 140 (140: 140: 160: 160: 160)cm or length required.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Block to measurements.

HAT

Everyone needs Marianne Rawlins' easy, breezy hat that can take you from the beach to the café in style

- King Cole Raffia (100% cellulose rayon, 50g/114m), 3 balls of Natural (1456)
- King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK (50% bamboo, 50% cotton, 100g/230m), 1 ball of Dusty Pink (618)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

TENSION

Rounds 1-6 of measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Hat measures 60cm (23¼in) in circumference

NOTES

Hat is worked in rounds with RS facing throughout.

HAT

CROWN

Using Natural, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 9dc in loop, ss to beg dc. [9 dc]

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each st around, ss to beg dc. [18 dc]

Round 3 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 9 times, ss to beg dc. [27 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc. [36 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc. [45 sts]

Round 6 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc. [54 sts]

Round 7 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc. [63 sts]

Round 8 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc. [72 sts]

Round 9 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 7 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc. [81 sts]

Round 10 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 8 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [90 sts]

Rounds 11-23 (WS) Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc, turn at the end of Round 23. [90 sts]

BRIM

Round 24 (RS) Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [99 sts]

Round 25 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 26 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 10 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [108 sts]

Round 27 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 28 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 11 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [117 sts]

Round 29 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 30 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 12 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [126 sts]

Round 31 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 32 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 13 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [135 sts]

Round 33 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 34 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 14 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [144 sts]

Round 35 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 36 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 15 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [153 sts]

Round 37 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 32 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next 16 sts) 9 times, ss to beg dc, turn. [162 sts]

Round 33 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off.

BAND

Using Dusty Pink, ch3, turn.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in second ch from hook and next st, turn. [2 dc]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1, 2dc in each st, turn. (4 dc]

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [6 dc]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [6 dc]

Row 5 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [8 dc]

Row 6 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog, turn. [6 sts]

Row 7 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [6 dc]

Row 8 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [4 sts]

Row 9 Ch1, dc2tog twice, turn. [2 sts]

Row 10 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [2 dc]

Repeat Rows 2-10, 10 times more.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Use long tail to sew short ends of Band together.

BORDER

Rejoin in end of first row to work around the Band, dc2tog over first 2 row-ends, *dc in next row-end, 2dc in each of next 3 row-ends, dc in next row-end, dc2tog over next 2 row-ends twice; repeat from * around, ss to first st to join.

Fasten off.

Repeat along the opposite side of the Band.

ESPADRILLES

Make sure you're in crochet from head to toe with Marianne Rawlins' boho-style granny square espadrilles

- King Cole Raffia (100% cellulose rayon, 114m/50g), 1 ball of Natural (1456)
- King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK (50% bamboo, 50% cotton, 100g/230m), 1 ball of each: Old Gold (625), Sea Breeze (3331), Dusty Pink (618), Denim (619)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A pair of espadrille soles

TENSION

Rounds 1-3 of Square measures 8x8cm (3¼x3¼in)

MEASUREMENTS

To fit espadrille soles of any size

NOTES

Espadrilles are made up of a Square that sits over the foot. The Square needs to be slightly bigger than half your foot circumference. Sizes are written in S, M and L, but can be adapted to your own measurements.

ESPADRILLES

SQUARES (MAKE 2)

Using Dusty Pink, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3, 2tr into loop, ch2, (3tr into ring, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts]

Join Natural in any ch-2 sp.

Round 2 Ch3, (tr, ch2, 2tr) in same ch-sp, tr in each of next 3 sts, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp, tr in each of next 3 sts; repeat from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [28 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Sea Breeze in any ch-2 sp

Round 3 Ch3, (tr, ch2, 2tr) in same ch-sp, tr in each of next 7 sts, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp, tr in each of next 7 sts; repeat from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [44 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Natural in any ch-2 sp.

Round 4 Ch3, (tr, ch2, 2tr) in same ch-sp, tr in each of next 11 sts, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp, tr in each of next 11 sts; repeat from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [60 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Denim in any ch-2 sp.

Round 5 Ch1 (does not count as st), *(2dc, ch2, 2dc) in ch-sp, dc in each of next 15 sts; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to beg dc. [76 sts]

Fasten off

Join Old Gold in any ch-2 sp.

Round 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), *(2dc, ch2, 2dc) in ch-sp, dc in each of next 19 sts; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to beg dc.

Rep Round 6 until Square measures 9 (10.5: 12) cm, or place around your foot to make sure it can attach comfortably to the soles.

Fasten off.

Sew to espadrille sole using the image as a guide.

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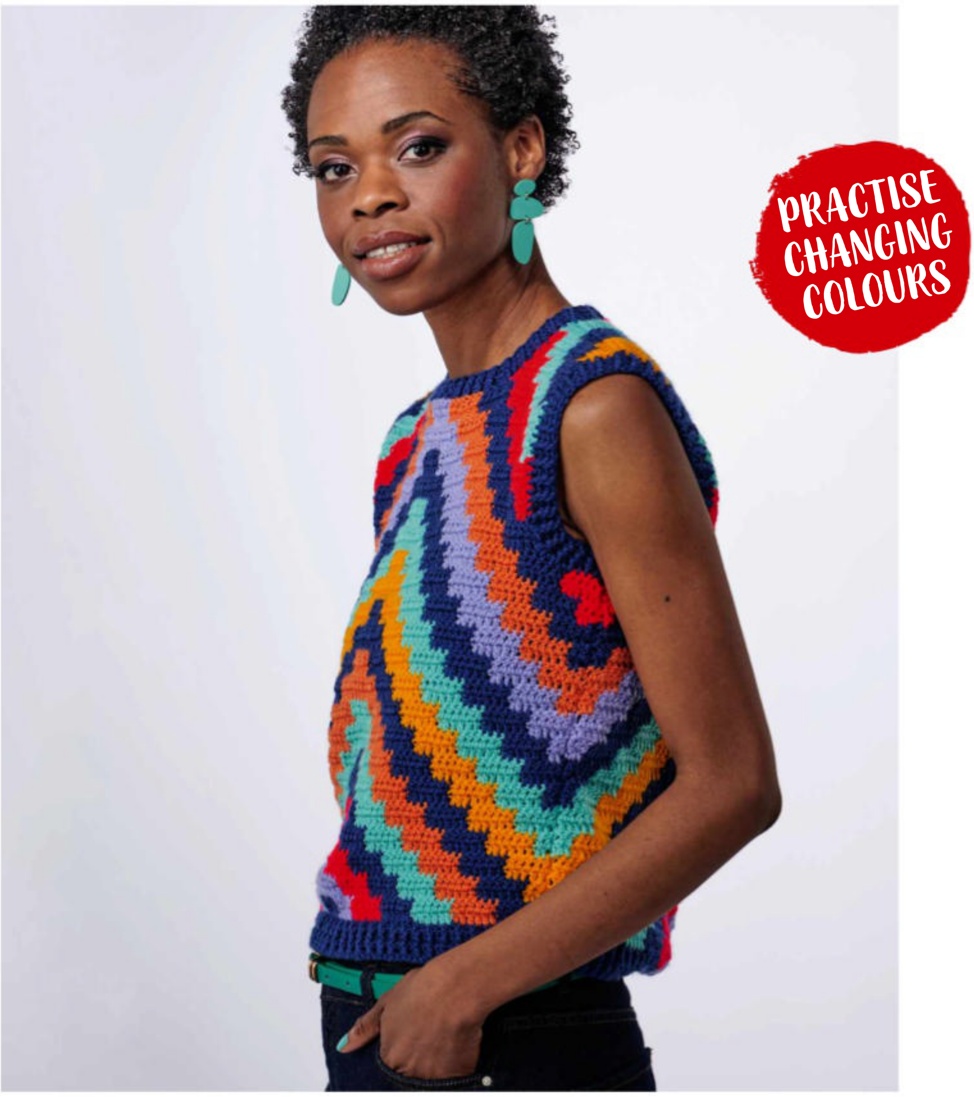
Colourwork and ribbed trim


PRACTISE CHANGING COLOURS

BLOCK STAR

Get your zigzag on with Lauren Willis' funky summer vest

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

DK WEIGHT

4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK
  (100% acrylic, 100g/295m)
  2 balls of **Yarn A** French Navy
  (1854) for all sizes
  1 ball of each for all sizes:
  Spice (1711)
  Lavender (1188)
  Aspen (1422)
  Sunshine (1114)
  Matador (1010)
  See table for measurements
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

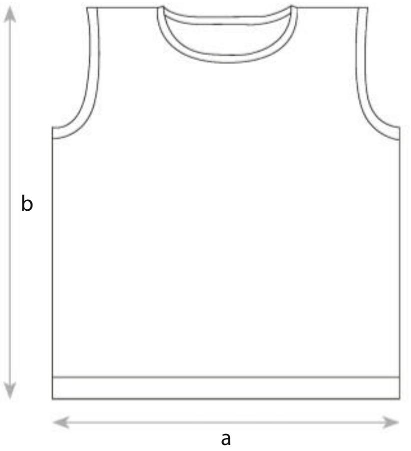
For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

16.5 sts and 10 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension.
Alternatively measure 33 sts over 20cm (8in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86



Bust width a: 47.5 (54.5: 58: 65.5: 69: 76.5: 80)cm, 18¾ (21½: 22¾: 25¾: 27¼: 30: 31½)in
Length b: 51 (53: 55: 57: 59: 61: 63)cm, 20 (20¾: 21¾: 22: 23¼: 24: 24¾)in

Make a statement with this zingy sleeveless top! If you've never crocheted from a chart before, this is a great pattern to start with.

NOTES

Vest is worked from bottom up in 2 panels. Follow the Chart on page 88 for the colourwork, keeping the pattern correct over the shaping sections. Each square on the Chart represents 3 treble stitches. The Chart is read from the bottom up; right to left on RS rows and left to right on WS rows. Change colour in last yrh of previous stitch. The lines on the Chart indicate the edges of the Chart for the size you are working. The Chart continues up to the armholes at Row 30. Then, continue the colour patt in same fashion.
Neck and armhole ribbing is worked onto the Vest once the shoulders and sides are seamed. It helps to leave long tails at the edges so you can use them to seam.

The vest is worked in treble stitch, with stitches worked into posts for the edgings

VEST

BACK

LOWER BODY

Using Yarn A, ch80 (92: 98: 110: 116: 128: 134).
Row 1 (RS) Tr in third ch from hook (counts as st) and each ch across, turn.
[78 (90: 96: 108: 114: 126: 132) sts]
Rows 2-4 Ch2 (counts as st), (FPtr around next st, BPtr around next st) rep to last st, FPtr in final st, turn.
Begin working your colours as per the chart.
Rows 1-30 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each st across, turn.
Fasten off.
For the following section above the armholes, cont the colour patt in the same fashion. You can refer to the top row of the Chart to see the colour sequence; the colours towards the edges of the Chart are the next colours to be introduced. For all sizes up to L, the colour sequence you need is present in the top row, but for larger sizes, the next 2 colours to be introduced are Spice followed by Aspen.

ARMHOLE SHAPING

Count 9 (9: 12: 11: 12: 14: 16) sts from the outer edge and keeping in colour pattern, join yarn in the next st.
Row 1 (RS) Ch3, 59 (71: 71: 85: 89: 97: 99) tr, turn leaving rem sts unworked.
[60 (72: 72: 86: 90: 98: 100) sts]

SIZES M, L, XL, 2X, 3X AND 4X ONLY

Row 2 Ch3, tr3tog, tr in each st to last 4 sts, tr3tog, tr in last st, turn.
[68 (68: 82: 86: 94: 96) sts]
Rep last row 2 (2: 4: 5: 7: 6) times more.
[- (60: 60: 66: 66: 66: 72) sts]

ALL SIZES

UPPER BODY

Working in rows of treble without shaping and keeping colour pattern correct, work a further 17 (16: 18: 18: 19: 19: 22) rows. [18 (20: 22: 24: 26: 28: 30) rows from beg of armholes]

FRONT

Work as Back to Upper Body.

UPPER BODY

Working in rows of treble without shaping and keeping colour pattern correct, work a further 11 (10: 12: 12: 13: 13: 16) rows.

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	4X
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127	132-137	142-147
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50	52-54	56-58
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	94.5	109	116.5	131	138	152.5	160
	in	37¼	43	45¾	51½	54½	60¼	63
LENGTH	cm	51	53	55	57	59	61	63
	in	20	20¾	21¾	22	23¼	24	24¾

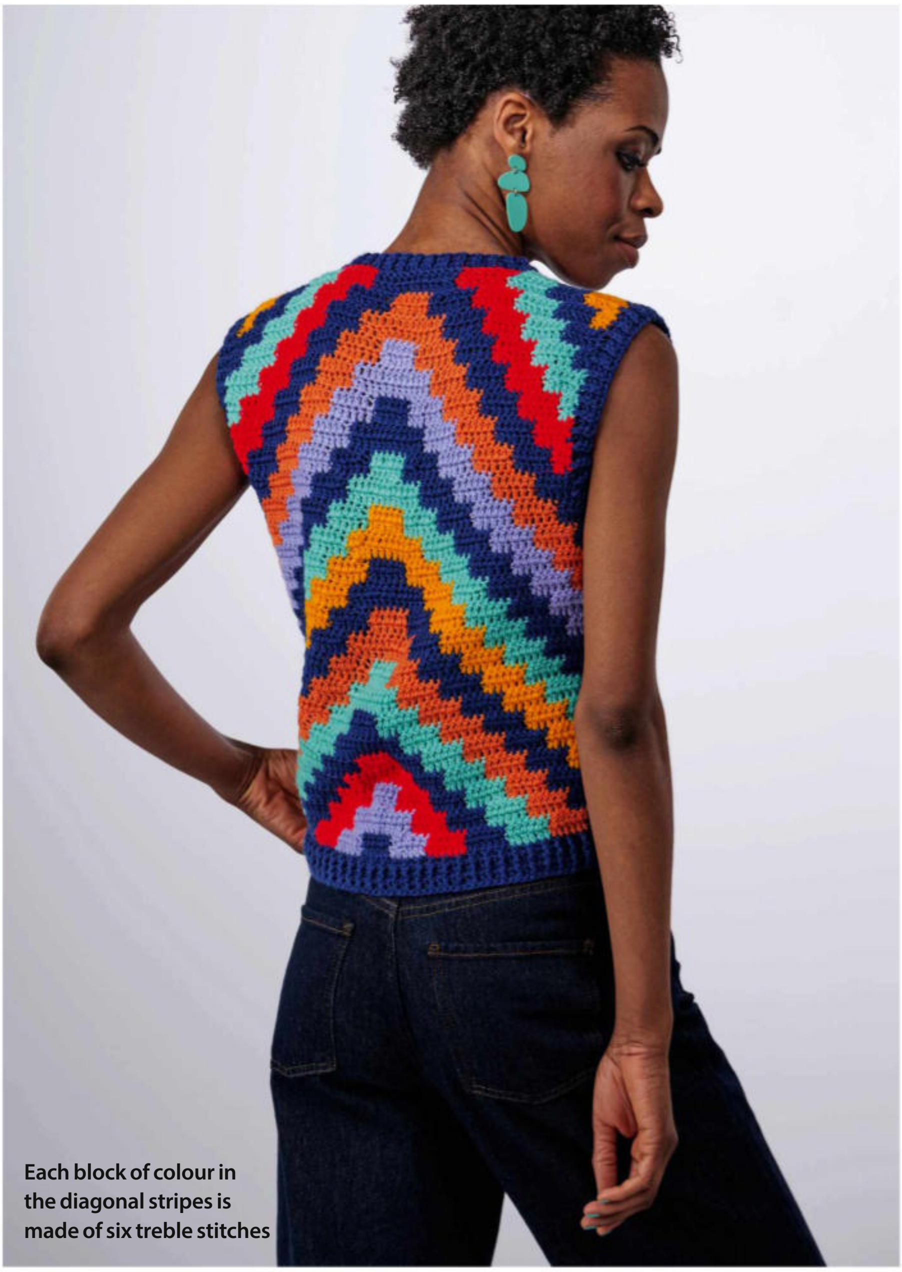
To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

NECKLINE
Row 1 (RS) Ch3, 17tr, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [18 sts]
Rows 2-6 Ch3, tr in each st across, turn.
Seaming row Ch1 (does not count as st), with RS of both panels together seam your shoulders by working a dc through the next 18 sts on both panels to join.
Fasten off.
Skip central 24 (24: 24: 30: 30: 30: 36) sts and rejoin yarn in next st with RS facing.
Repeat Rows 1-6 of Neckline and Seaming row, keeping colour patt correct.

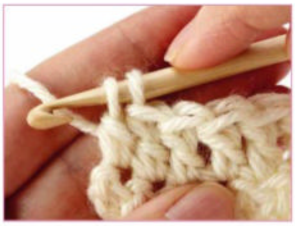
TO MAKE UP
Using tails of yarn to match colours, join the side seams.

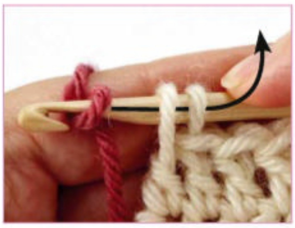
NECKLINE EDGING
Using French Navy and with RS facing, join yarn in any st at the back of neckline.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3, working in bl of tr sts, tr in each st and 2tr in each row-end, ss to top of beg ch-3, do not turn.
There should be an even number of sts around the neckline.
Round 2 Ch2 (does not count as st), (FPtr around next st, BPtr around next st) rep around, ss to first FPtr to join, do not turn.
Rounds 3-4 Rep Round 2.
Fasten off.

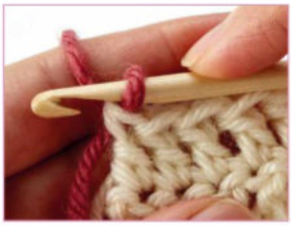
ARMHOLE EDGING
With French Navy and RS facing, join yarn in any st at the base of underarm.
Round 1 Ch3 (counts as st), tr in each underarm st, 2tr in each shaping row-end, tr evenly around rem armhole, approx 6tr to 8 rows.
Ensure there are an even number of sts in total, ss to beg ch-3, do not turn.
Repeat Rounds 2-4 of Armhole Edging.
Weave in all ends.

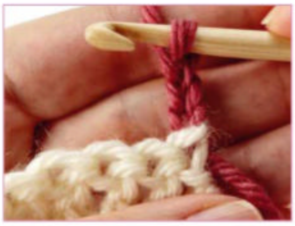

Each block of colour in the diagonal stripes is made of six treble stitches

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR IN ROWS


1 Start working the last stitch of the last row of the old colour, but stop before you work the final yrh of the stitch. Cut off the old yarn, leaving a tail about 7cm long.


2 Now loop the new yarn colour around the hook, leaving a long tail of yarn (about 7cm long).


3 Pull the new yarn loop through the remaining 2 loops to finish off the stitch. Pull the old and new yarn ends to tighten the loop on the hook.


4 Now you can work the turning chain of the new row in the new colour (eg, 3ch for treble). Then work the stitches of the new row in the new yarn colour.

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DK WEIGHT

3.75MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK
  (100% acrylic, 100g/295m)
  Mocha (1064)
  Dandelion (1856)
  Meadow (1065)
- A small amount of any light pink yarn
- Black stranded cotton
- A 3.75mm (US F/5) hook
- 2 safety eyes, 14mm
- Toy stuffing
- A wooden dowel or chopstick (approx 25cm long)

For yarn stockists contact Stylecraft 01484 848435 www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Sunflower measures appox 30cm (11¾in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

inv dec Insert hook through fl of next 2 sts, yrh and pull through both sts, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 86

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Sunflowers are one of the easiest plants to grow from seed, but it's even simpler to hook one up! This happy little heliotrope will be loved by children and adults alike.

NOTES

Parts of this pattern are worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round, moving it up as you go. This item is not suitable as a toy for a child under 36 months due to the inclusion of potentially hazardous parts.

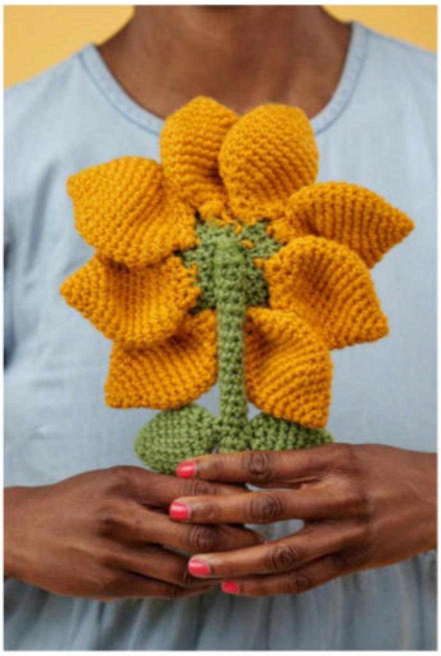
SUNFLOWER

CENTRE

Using Mocha, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.
Insert safety eyes between Rounds 4-5, approx 10 sts apart.
Using light pink, embroider the cheeks.
Using black stranded cotton, embroider the mouth.
Rounds 10-11 Dc in each st around.
Change to Meadow.
Round 12 (5dc, inv dec) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 13 (4dc, inv dec) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 14 (3dc, inv dec) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 15 (2dc, inv dec) 6 times. [18 sts]
Stuff as you work.
Round 16 (1dc, inv dec) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 17 (Inv dec) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

PETALS (MAKE 8)

Using Dandelion, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc in loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in next st, dc in each st around. [5 sts]
Round 3 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 6 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 7 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 8-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (1dc, inv dec) 8 times. [16 sts]
Round 15 (Inv dec) 8 times.
Round 16 (Inv dec) 4 times. [4 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 4 sts and pull tight to close.



Sew the petals and the stalk to the back of the sunflower's centre, then add the leaves

STEM

Using Meadow, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each st around.
Rep Round 2 until Stem measures length of wooden dowel or chopstick.
Fasten off.
Place a small amount of stuffing into the Stem and insert the wooden dowel, pushing the stuffing to the base.
Sew the top of the Stem closed.

LEAVES (MAKE 2)

Using Meadow, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-5 (RS) As Rounds 1-5 of Petals. [15 sts]
Rounds 6-8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 (Dc in next st, inv dec) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 10 (Inv dec) 5 times.
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 5 sts and pull tight to close.

TO MAKE UP

Sew the Petals to the Centre, over Rounds 10-11.
Sew the Stem to the back of the Centre.
Sew the Leaves to the Stem.
Weave in any rem ends.

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CATHERINE'S JOURNAL

...from the studio

Catherine's projects go outdoors, on day trips and even on holiday

Summer is here, and we're itching to take our hooks outdoors. But is it practical? Catherine Venner of Crochet Cloudberry investigates....

The sun's out, the temperatures are rising and it's light until late – what's not to like? When the British summer comes, we're all in a hurry to get outside and enjoy it... that is, unless you're about to finish a crochet project, or have just spotted a new, beautiful pattern. And so we crocheters are faced with a dilemma: should we go out in the sunshine or sit inside with your hooks and yarn? Or can the two activities be joined together somehow?

CROCHET IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

I'm a firm believer that crochet should not just be relegated to the sofa on rainy days. Summer offers us an excellent opportunity to take our crochet out into the wild!

I just love sitting in the garden among the blooms, my latest WIP on my lap. Not only am I soaking up some vital vitamin D, but I'm also letting my creative juices flow through my crochet.

Many of my designs are inspired by the flowers and animals in my garden. And sitting and listening to the birds in the trees with a nice drink in one hand and my hook in the other is the perfect way to end a summer's day. If you don't have your own garden, a local park or community garden is also a great place to practise your craft.

Another one of my favourite things to do in the summer is take my crochet on excursions. Wherever we head for a picnic, my current project is always stuffed into the basket alongside the sandwiches and crudités – after all, what could be more relaxing than doing a few rows after a lunch al fresco? It also provides you with some fantastic photo ops – I don't think there is any crochet that doesn't look fabulous against a backdrop of rolling hills or the ocean.

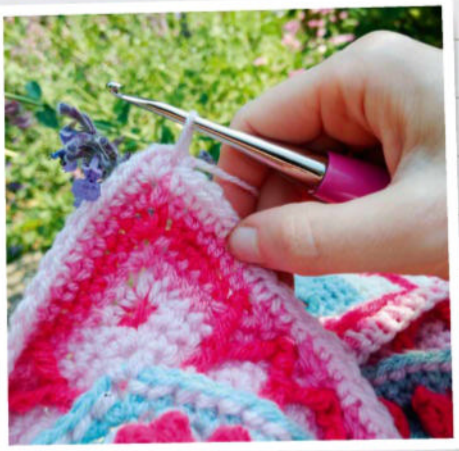
However, day-tripping with crochet does have a few pitfalls. I once decided to take a cardigan project to the beach, not anticipating that the slight breeze would blow the sand into the yarn, where it stuck. The garment needed a good washing before I'd even worn it!

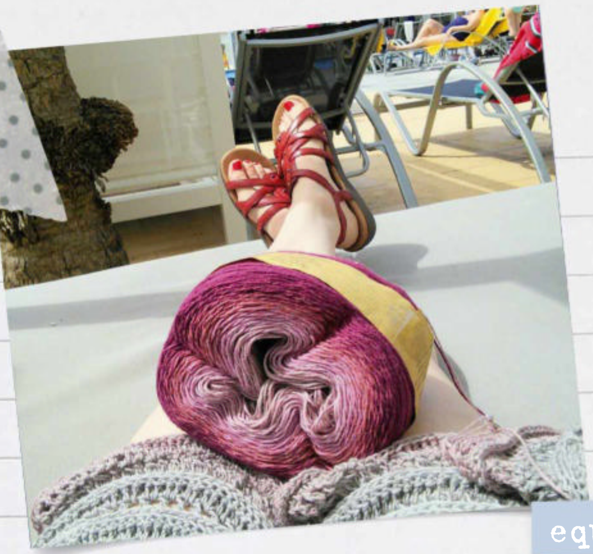
Another time, I took a picture of a blanket on a bush near a stately home. I ended up spending half an hour pulling dead leaves off the back of the throw.

TRAVELLING WIPS

Once you've mastered the art of day trips with WIPs, you're ready to go further and bring your crochet on holiday. As a true crochet addict, I can't remember the last time I stayed over anywhere without at least one ball of yarn in my luggage. (At this point, I must point out that I have

> Summer offers us an excellent opportunity to take our crochet out into the wild!





Make sure you bring the equipment for your project

a wonderful partner who tolerates the large bags of yarn that fill our boot when we go on holidays.)

That said, there are times when you just can't take your latest half-made afghan because space won't allow it – for example, when you're flying with limited baggage. But don't be deterred. Small, single skein projects such as hats are your perfect companions on such vacations. But sometimes, taking that big project with you can pay off, too. For instance, I once flew to America with all the yarn needed to make a blanket in my suitcase. Over the 10-day holiday, I crocheted the bed throw, gifted it to my sister's family and bought enough American yarn to refill my case. A win all round!

DON'T FORGET THE SCISSORS!

A little bit of planning is required when crocheting in the wild. Firstly, you need to make sure that you bring the equipment for your project. I've frequently ended up kicking myself after realising I'd forgotten to pack the scissors. I also tend not to take my favourite ergonomic hooks any further than my garden for fear of losing them. Hooks can easily slip down the gaps in a park bench, so I like to use ones that I can pick up cheaply at local craft stores. And, of course, portability plays a role – if our day out involves a bit of a hike, I'm more likely to take a lightweight project like a doily as opposed to a chunky cardi.

Nowadays, yarncrafts are very present on the street scene, especially thanks to the wonderful yarnbombed post boxes around the country. Crochet in the wild feels like the logical next step. Grab your yarn and hooks and get out there!

Visit Catherine online at www.crochetcloudberry.co.uk and follow her on Instagram at @crochet_cloudberry

CATHERINE'S TOP SPOT

My favourite place to crochet in the wild is next to a burn in the Durham Dales on a sunny day. While my hooks go to work, I can breathe in the pure air and listen to the stream trickling away.

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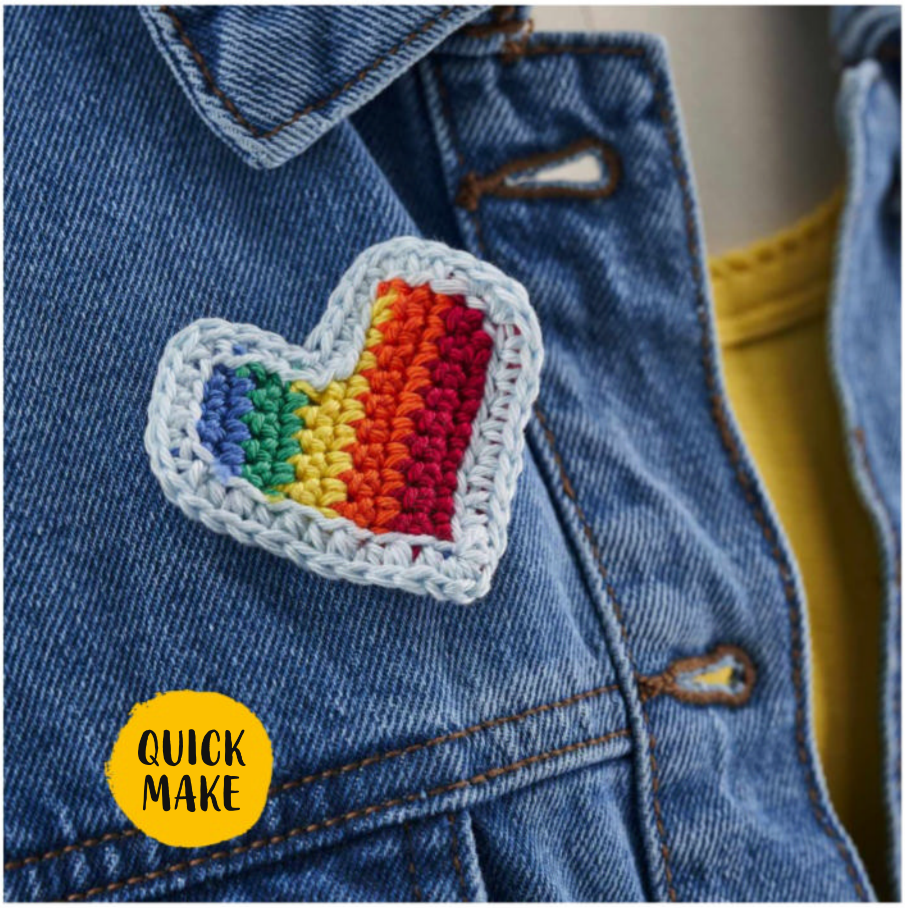


WEAR WITH PRIDE

This June, show your support for all sexualities and genders with Paula Green's rainbow heart badges

EASY PEASY ★★☆

4PLY WEIGHT

2.5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 10g/25m)
  1 ball of each:
  Scarlet (192)
  Royal Orange (189)
  Lemon (280)
  Parrot Green (241)
  Capri Blue (261)
  Baby Blue (509)
- A 2.5mm (US B1/ or C/2 hook)
- 2 safety pins

For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Diagonal Badge measures 6x6cm (2¼x2¼in) across widest points
Rainbow Badge measures 6x5cm (2¼x2in) across widest points

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86

SCAN ME
Visit our website for more small and simple Pride Month projects

The rainbow has been a symbol for the LGBTQIA+ community since 1978. Paula has designed two heart-shaped badges to wear – choose from curved or diagonal stripes.

NOTES

Badges are worked in rows. Change colour on final yrh of row before colour change is indicated. Work over the tails to reduce the number of ends you need to weave in.

BADGES

PRIDE DIAGONAL BADGE (MAKE 2)

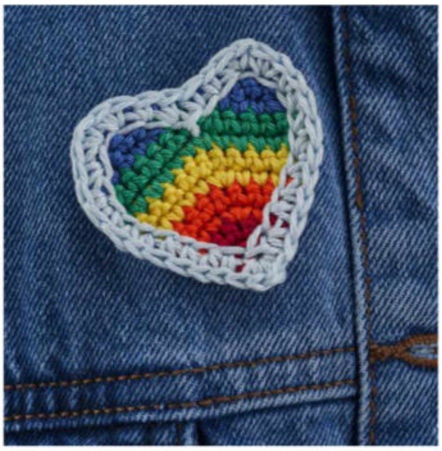
Using Scarlet, ch10.
Row 1 (RS) 2dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [10 sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st across, turn.
Change to Royal Orange.
Rows 3-4 As Row 2.
Change to Lemon.
Row 5 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 8 sts, turn. [9 sts]
Row 6 Ch1, dc in first 5 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [5 sts]
Change to Parrot Green.
Rows 7-8 As Row 2.
Change to Capri Blue.
Row 9 As Row 2.
Row 10 Ch1, skip first st, dc in next 3 sts, ss in final st.
Fasten off.

EDGING

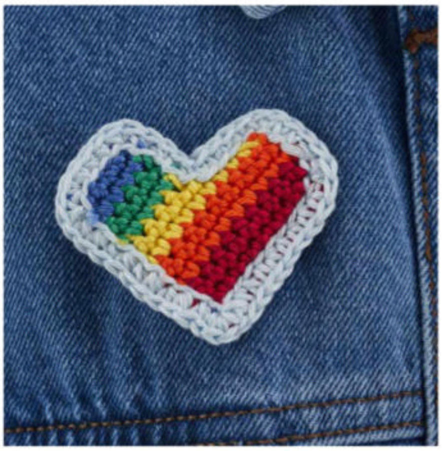
Place 2 pieces together and work next round through both layers to join.
Join Baby Blue in base of Heart.
Round 1 Ss evenly around, working 1 ss in each st and row-end around, ss in beg ss.
Round 2 Ch1, dc in each ss and 2dc in each corner ss around, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Sew a safety pin to the back of the Badge.

RAINBOW BADGE (MAKE 1)

Using Scarlet, ch2.
Row 1 (RS) 2dc in second ch from hook, turn. [2 sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch1, 2dc in each st across, turn. [4 sts]
Change to Royal Orange.
Row 3 Ch1, (1dc, 2dc in next st) twice, turn. [6 sts]
Row 4 Ch1, (2dc, 2dc in next st) twice, turn. [8 sts]
Change to Lemon.
Row 5 Ch1, (3dc, 2dc in next st) twice, turn. [10 sts]
Row 5 Ch1, (4dc, 2dc in next st) twice, turn. [12 sts]
Change to Parrot Green.
Row 6 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 7 Ch1, dc in first 6 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [6 sts]



The badges are worked in rows of double crochet and finished with a border all around

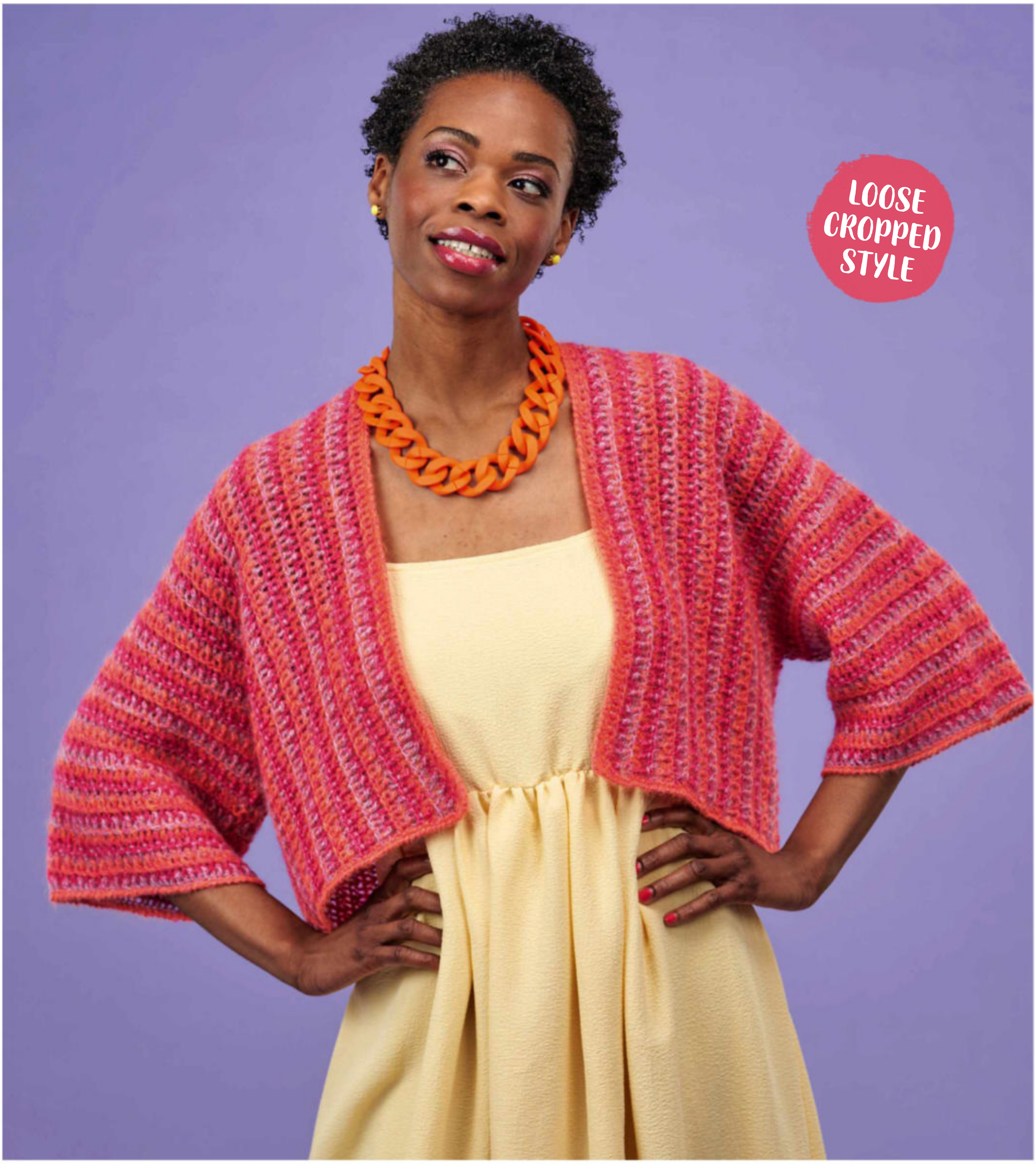


Attach a safety pin to the back for portable badges – pin them on clothes and accessories

Change to Capri Blue.
Row 8 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [4 sts]
Row 9 Ch1, dc, dc2tog, dc. [3 sts]
Fasten off.
Join Parrot Green in first unworked st from Row 6 and rep Rows 7-9.
Fasten off.

EDGING

Join Baby Blue in base of Heart.
Rounds 1-2 (RS) As Rounds 1-2 of Edging for Diagonal Badge.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Sew a safety pin to the back of the Badge.


LOOSE CROPPED STYLE

On cloud nine

Lisa Richardson's vibrant, lightweight cardi is crocheted using the softest mohair and silk yarn

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

LACE WEIGHT

4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan Kidsilk Haze
  (70% mohair, 30% silk, 25g/210m)
  Yarn A Pumpkin (728)
  Yarn B Flamingo (713)
  Yarn C Ghost (642)
- Rowan Fine Lace
  (80% alpaca, 20% wool,
  50g/400m)
  Yarn D Azalea (956)
  See table for measurements
  and yarn quantities
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists contact
Rowan 01924 371501
www.knitrowan.com

TENSION

15 sts and 10 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86

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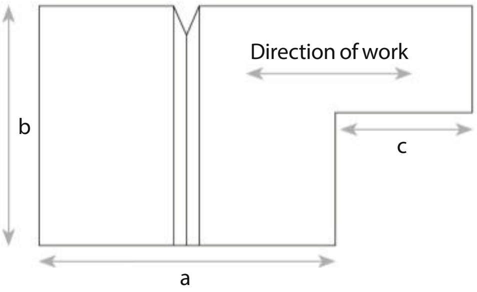


Width a: 50 (54: 60: 64: 70: 74: 80: 84: 90)cm, 19¾ (21¼: 23¾: 25¼: 27½: 29: 31½: 33: 35¼)in
Length b: 42 (44: 46: 48: 50: 52: 53: 55: 56)cm, 16¾ (17¾: 18: 19: 19¾ : 20½: 21: 21¾: 22)in
Sleeve length c: 19 (20: 20: 21: 21: 21: 21: 21: 21)cm, 7½ (8: 8: 8¼: 8¼: 8¼: 8¼: 8¼: 8¼)in

Hook yourself the perfect seasonal cover-up using marshmallow-soft Kidsilk Haze in three deliciously juicy shades.

NOTES

Cardigan is worked in rows throughout.
Work with a strand of Yarn D and a strand of mohair held together as one throughout.
The Cardigan is made up of 2 identical panels.
Rows are worked lengthways, so the row tension will denote the bust measurement and the stitch tension will denote the length.
The Left and Right are seamed together at the back, side and sleeve seams. Edging is added around the hem and cuffs at the end.

CARDIGAN

COLOUR SEQUENCE

Row 1 Yarn A and Yarn D.
Row 2 Yarn B and Yarn D.
Row 3 Yarn C and Yarn D.
Rep Rows 1-3 throughout.

SIDE PANEL (MAKE 2)

Using Yarns A and D, ch133 (139: 145: 151: 157: 163: 167: 173: 173).
Row 1 (RS) Tr into fourth ch from hook, tr in next 56 (59: 62: 65: 68: 71: 73: 76: 77) ch, pm in last tr, tr in each ch to end, turn.
[131 (137: 143: 149: 155: 161: 165: 171: 173) sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), (FPdtr around next st, tr in next st) rep across to end, turn.
Row 3 Ch3, (FPdtr around next st, tr in next st) rep across to end, turn.
Rep Row 3 in colour sequence until piece measures 25 (27: 30: 32: 35: 37: 40: 42: 45)cm, ending on a WS row.
Fasten off.

SLEEVE

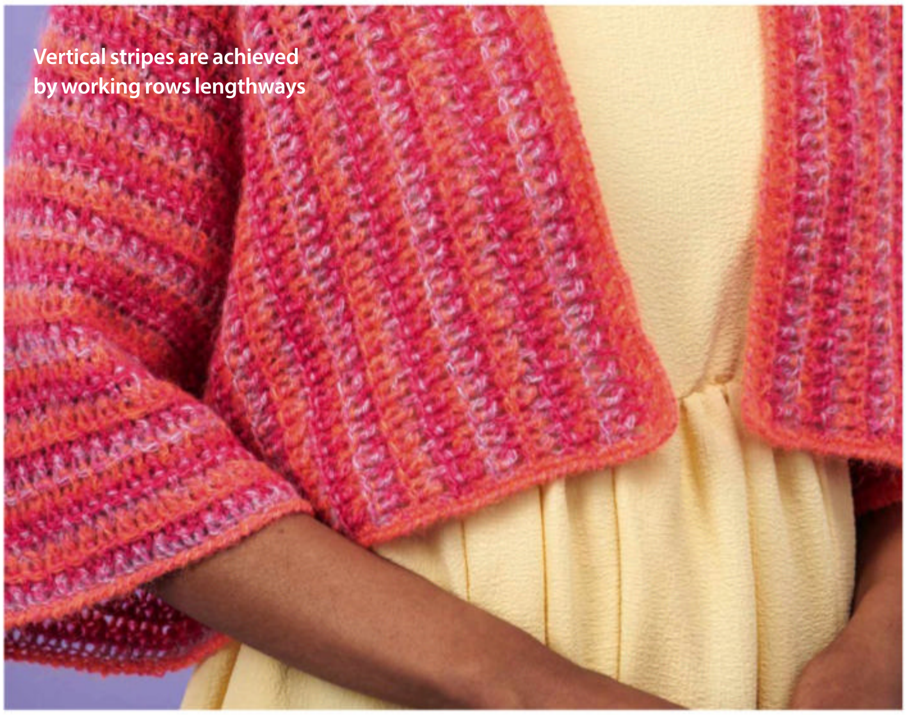
Join yarn in 29th (29th: 31st: 31st: 31st: 33rd: 33rd: 33rd: 33rd) st.
Row 1 (RS) Ch3, (FPdtr around next st, tr in next st) 37 (40: 41: 44: 47: 48: 50: 53: 54) times, turn leaving rem sts unworked.
Row 2 Ch3, (FPdtr around next st, tr in next st) rep across to end, turn.
Rep Row 2 until Sleeve measures 19 (20: 20: 21: 21: 21: 21: 21: 21)cm.
Fasten off.
With RS facing, join Yarns A and D in final st on last row of Sleeve.
Next row Ch1, reverse dc in each st across.
Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

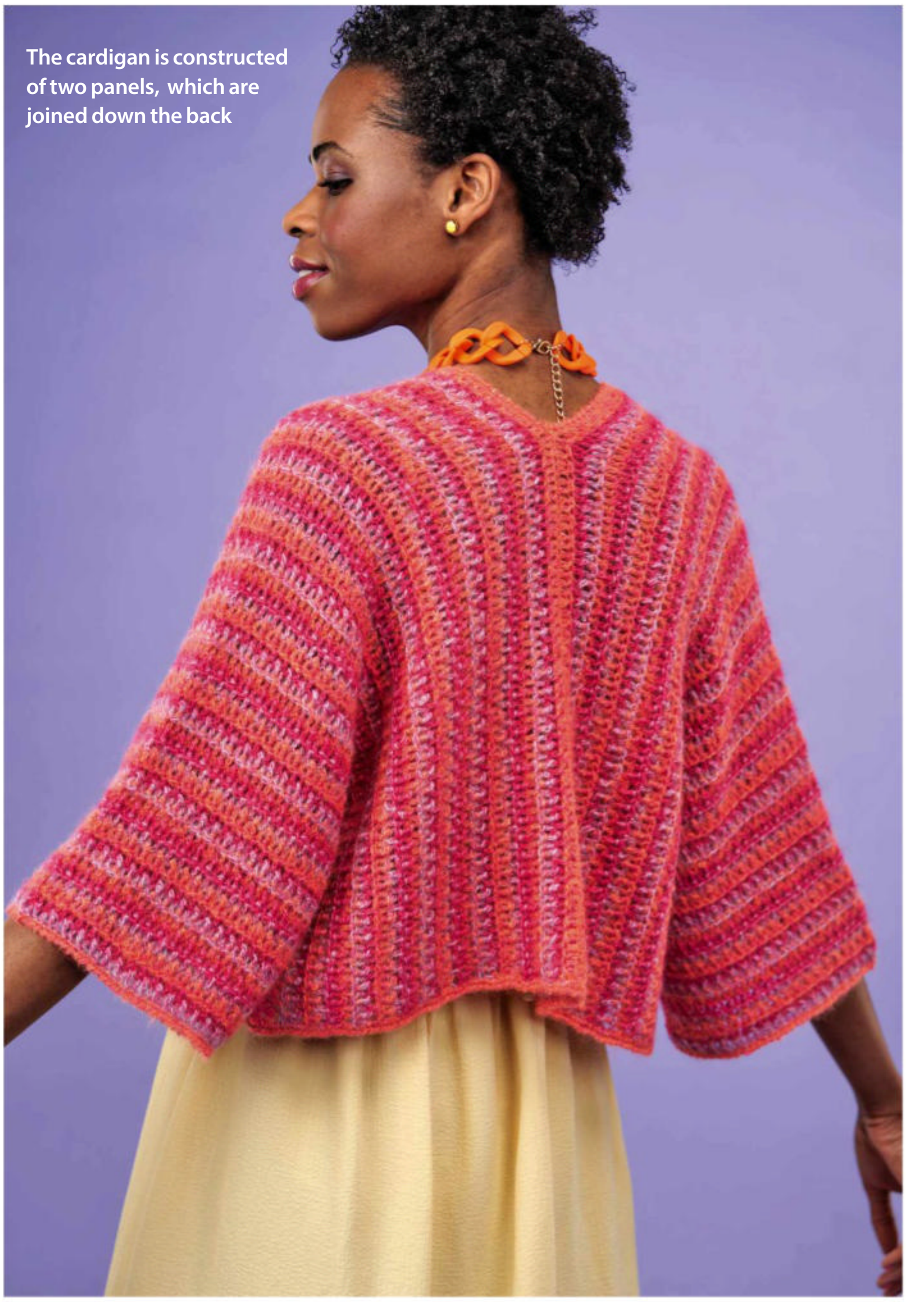
Fold each Panel in half to form the front, back and sleeve.
Whipstitch the side and sleeve seams.
Place Panels together and whipstitch the back together over 60 (62: 66: 68: 70: 73: 75: 77: 77) sts.

HEM AND FRONT EDGING

With RS facing, join Yarns A and C at base of left front.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 2dc in each row-end around hem, dc in each st around opening, ss to beg dc, do not turn.
Round 2 Ch1, reverse dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Block to measurements listed.



Vertical stripes are achieved by working rows lengthways



The cardigan is constructed of two panels, which are joined down the back

Work the wide sleeves off the main panel by joining yarn partway along the fabric

SAVE OR SPLURGE

For a more budget-friendly make, try Scheepjes Mohair Rhythm (yarn quantities as listed for Rowan Kidsilk Haze) and Scheepjes Maxi Sugar Rush 50g – for each ball of Rowan Fine Lace, you will need 2 balls of Scheepjes Sugar Rush.
Check hook size, tension and ball length if you use a different yarn.
For yarn stockists contact www.scheepjes.com/en

SIZE		XS	S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	4X	5X
TO FIT BUST	cm	71-76	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127	132-137	142-147	152-157
	in	28-30	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50	52-54	56-58	60-62
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	100	108	120	128	140	148	160	168	180
	in	39¼	42½	47¼	50½	55	58¼	63	66¼	70¾
LENGTH	cm	42	44	46	48	50	52	53	55	56
	in	16¾	17¾	18	19	19¾	20½	21	21¾	22
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	19	20	20	21	21	21	21	21	21
	in	7½	8	8	8¼	8¼	8¼	8¼	8¼	8¼
YARNS A-C	25g	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
YARN D	50g	3	4	4	4	5	5	6	6	6

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

Elephant-astic

Johan Björnfot's cute pachyderm is all set for summer with his jaunty pink sun hat

GREAT BABY GIFT

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

4PLY WEIGHT

2MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Cotton 8
  (100% cotton, 50g/170m)
  1 ball of each:
  Yellow (551)
  Light Grey (700)
  White (502)
  Pink (719)
- A 2mm (US B/1) hook
- Black stranded cotton
- White stranded cotton
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Elephant measures approx 21cm (8¼in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

inv dec Insert hook under fl of next 2 sts, yrh and pull through both loops, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook

picot Ch3, dc in third ch from hook

For a full list, see page 86

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Happy Life stacking blocks and baby's first numbers book from Rex London (www.rexlondon.com)

This little amigurumi pal is made even sweeter with a host of fun accessories.

NOTES

Pattern is worked using the amigurumi method, work in continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

Legs and Body are worked in one piece. All other parts are made separately and sewn in place at the end. Use the image as a guide when sewing the parts together.

Change colour on the final yrh of st before colour change is indicated.

ELEPHANT

LEGS AND BODY

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Light Grey, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc in a loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 5 Dc in each st around.

Round 6 Dc in bl of each st around.

Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.

Change to White.

Rounds 9-11 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yellow.

Rounds 12-15 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off first Leg only.

BODY

Cont with Yellow.

Round 16 Ch16, 24dc around the first Leg, dc in each ch between Legs, 24dc around second Leg. [64 sts]

Round 17 16dc in back of ch between Legs, 64dc. [80 sts]

Rounds 18-20 Dc in each st around.

Round 21 (8dc, inv dec) 8 times. [72 sts]

Rounds 22-25 Dc in each st around.

Round 26 (7dc, inv dec) 8 times. [64 sts]

Rounds 27-30 Dc in each st around.

Stuff as you work.

Round 31 (6dc, inv dec) 8 times. [56 sts]

Rounds 32-35 Dc in each st around.

Round 36 (5dc, inv dec) 8 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 37-40 Dc in each st around.

Round 41 (6dc, inv dec) 6 times. [42 sts]

Rounds 42-49 Dc in each st around.

Round 50 (5dc, inv dec) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 51 Dc in each st around.

Round 52 (4dc, inv dec) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 53 (3dc, inv dec) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 54 (2dc, inv dec) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 55 (Dc, inv dec) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 56 (Inv dec) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

The belt button is a two-round circle worked in double crochet and stitched onto the belt

HEAD

Using Light Grey, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-4 (RS) As Rounds 1-4 of Legs. [24 sts]

Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 6 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 8 (6dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 9 (7dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 10 (8dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [60 sts]

Rounds 11-25 Dc in each st around.

Stuff as you work.

Round 26 (8dc, inv dec) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 27 (7dc, inv dec) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 28 (6dc, inv dec) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 29 (5dc, inv dec) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 30 (4dc, inv dec) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 31 (3dc, inv dec) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 32 (2dc, inv dec) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 33 (Dc, inv dec) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 34 (Inv dec) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

Sew the Head to the Body, topping up with stuffing as you join.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Light Grey, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) As Rounds 1-3 of Legs. [18 sts]

Round 4 Dc in bl of each st around.

Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.

Change to White.

Rounds 7-9 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yellow.

Round 10 Dc in each st around.

Round 11 (4dc, inv dec) 3 times. [15 sts]

Rounds 12-19 Dc in each st around.

Stuff lower half of Arm lightly.

Round 20 (3dc, inv dec) 3 times. [12 sts]

The ears are made in two hexagonal pieces and sewn together during the final round

Round 21 (Inv dec) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.
Sew the Arms between Rounds 49-50 of the Body.

EARS (MAKE 4)

Each Ear is made up of 2 identical pieces.
Using Light Grey, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-4 (RS) As Rounds 1-4 of Legs. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (6dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times, ss in next st. [48 sts]
Fasten off.
Place 2 pieces together with RS facing out and lining up the increases to achieve the hexagon shape. Work the next round through both pieces to join.
Join yarn in first st.
Round 9 Ch1, (dc in next 7 sts, picot, dc in next st) 6 times, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off.
Sew Ears between Rounds 15-23 of the Head.

TRUNK

Using Light Grey, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (Dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 3 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [12 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (2dc, inv dec) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 6 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 7-21 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.
Flatten the final round and use the tail to sew closed.
Sew the Trunk between Rounds 16-17 of the Head.

TUSKS (MAKE 2)

Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc in loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each st around.
Round 3 (Dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]
Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.
Flatten the final round and use the tail to sew closed.
Sew the Tusks either side of the Trunk, over Rounds 18 of the Head.

HAT

Using Pink, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-4 (RS) As Rounds 1-4 of Legs. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 Dc in bl of each st around.
Round 7 (3dc, inv dec) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 8-9 Dc in each st around.
Round 10 (Working in bl throughout) (Dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [36 sts]
Round 11 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [48 sts]
Round 12 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [60 sts]
Round 13 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [72 sts]
Fasten off.
Using a single strand of white stranded cotton, sew the Hat to the Head over Rounds 3-11.

BELT

Using White, make a ch to the measurements of Round 32 of the Body.
Fasten off.
Sew around Round 32 of the Body.

BELT BUTTON

Using Pink, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc in a loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around, ss to beg dc. [12 sts]
Fasten off.
Sew to the Belt.

TAIL (OPTIONAL)

Using Light Grey, ch14.
Fasten off.
Sew to the back of the Body between Rounds 21-22.
Using a darning needle, separate the strand of yarn at the end of the tail and trim to desired length.

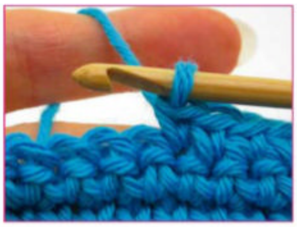
TAIL BOW (OPTIONAL)

Using Pink, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) (Ch2, tr in loop, ch2, ss in the loop) twice.
Fasten off.
Thread one tail around the centre to form the bow shape.
Sew the Bow to the end of the Tail.
Fasten off.

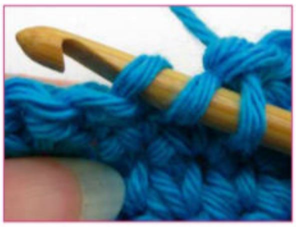
TO FINISH

Using black stranded cotton, embroider the eyes between Rounds 13-15, 13 sts apart.
Using black stranded cotton, embroider the mouth under the Tusks.
Weave in all ends.

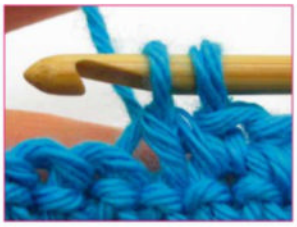
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK AN INVISIBLE DECREASE (INVDEC)



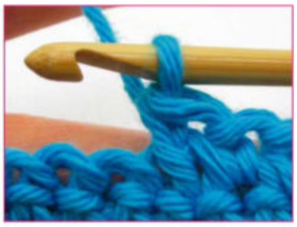
1 Work up to where you want the decrease to be placed. The next 2 stitches will be decreased to 1 stitch.



2 Insert the hook through the front loop on the next stitch, then insert hook through the front loop on the second stitch.



3 Yrh and pull through both front loops on the hook.



4 Yrh and pull through both loops on hook.

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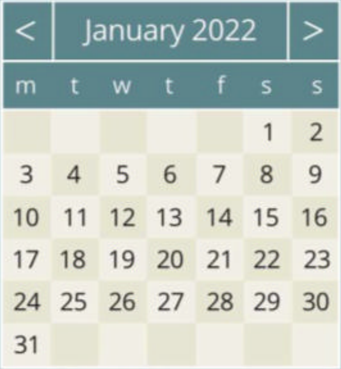
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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WE ARE UK HAND KNITTING

Australian designer Sandra's signature style features autumnal colours and textured bobbles

STITCHED STRONG

After a devastating diagnosis, Sandra Torrance of Little Golden Nook discovered a passion for crochet design thanks to her family's support, her faith and her own inner strength

The world of Little Golden Nook feels idyllic, cosy and full of love. Children play outdoors in bobbly jumpers, squishy blankets and chunky jumpers hang in inviting neutral interiors and tanned, blonde-haired designer Sandra Torrance crochets with a smile on her face, wearing several of her own gorgeous creations. The beauty of Sandra's world is real – she really has a loving family, a creatively inspiring home and a love of outdoor stitching – but it's only part of her story.

Sandra has Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, or ME/CFS, which causes extreme tiredness and inflammation – and completely changed the direction of the former physical education teacher's life. But thanks to the love of her family, her unwavering Christian faith and her own strength and optimism, Sandra found happiness by focusing not on what she can't do but on what she can – and one of the things she can do, and do very well, is crochet.

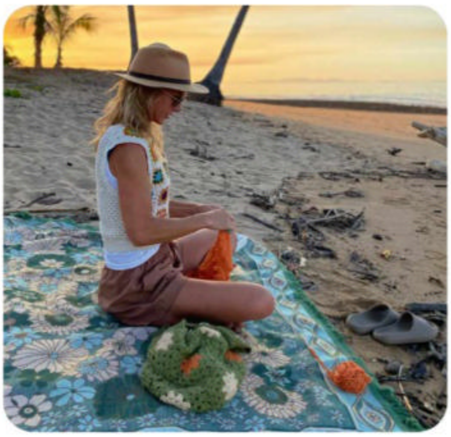
WEATHER THE STORM

"I was studying my final year of phys ed teaching, training as a distance runner and working various casual jobs when I first became unwell with a virus," Sandra explains. "I'd never been prone to illness, and never had a reason to stop and rest. I pushed through to begin teaching, but my health gradually got worse with the extra exertion needed to get through each day. I was eventually diagnosed with ME/CFS, which I've now had for 20 years. It was like hitting a brick wall and being forced to face a complete life change, and I struggled hard to accept it for at least another year."

However, with the whole-hearted support of her partner, she began to "embrace [my pain] as an opportunity rather than a failure". And her faith granted her tranquillity – without it, she says, "I don't think I'd have had the peace of mind to have built my own beautiful creative nook or tiny space in this world, let alone recover from having three babies!"

DISCOVERING CROCHET

Sandra's passion for crochet came later – about ten years ago, after her first two children were born. She had always been creative, and "naturally appreciated handmade knits and blankets, as my mum had always knitted and sewn." She decided to learn crochet in order to make her own cushion covers and dolls' clothes. "I made a granny square cushion cover, and I still



have it, which is amazing, really, as I remember I would fasten off each colour and cut the shortest tail, not realising I needed enough to weave in my ends."

Her crochet design career came about later, after another challenging time in her life. "It was after our 'bonus baby' boy was born seven years ago, followed by some post-natal depression, that I found a new strength, creative drive and perseverance. I sort of 'fell into' the design process by chance. I saw a knitted jumper I loved, and decided to try to crochet a similar style. It worked, and my little Instagram community loved it and asked for a pattern, and off I went, learning the hard way how to write, test and publish a crochet pattern."

Also without meaning to, Sandra stumbled upon her own signature style – modern yet cosy and covered in autumnal colours and lots of bobble stitches! "I do love texture, and bobble stitch will always be my favourite," she says. "My 'bobbly' patterns still outnumber all the others." Eventually, she was not only designing for her own Ravelry and LoveCrafts shops, but in partnership with both local Australian and international yarn companies and for magazines such as *Mollie Makes*.

Even Sandra's children are involved in the crochet side of her life now. "They join in sometimes, as they can all crochet, despite the age gap with a now-17, 15 and seven-year-old," she says. "They're all really supportive, actually, and are moderately impressed with my Instagram following."

Photos: Sandra Torrance

And, perhaps most importantly, Sandra continues to get a lot of joy from her crochet work. "I love to crochet on a picnic rug at or near the beach," she says. "If I have my hooks and yarn, always water, usually snacks, I'm happy. If my husband, son and our dog are playing in the distance, even better."

> "CROCHET HAS GIVEN ME PURPOSE, SOMETHING TO BE BUSY WITH WHILE RESTING MY MIND AND BODY"

TRUE RESILIENCE

ME/CFS still makes work challenging, but Sandra seems to take the ups and downs of the syndrome in her stride. "I do have periods where I'm too weak to crochet, and I prefer to sit in bed and work so I can easily lean back or lay and rest my eyes when needed," she explains. "But there are other times where I just love to sit outside and crochet while the energy lasts. I've also been through weeks at a time where upper body inflammation has meant resting my hooks. But in general, crochet has given me purpose, something to be busy with while resting my mind and body and often missing out on social things."

That positive, roll-with-the punches attitude seems to extend to Sandra's design philosophy, too. "Disasters have never gotten the better of me," she says of her crochet – though she could easily be talking about any area of her life. "I've done all sorts of crazy things to rectify a disaster, things I would never recommend, but I do have a knack for fixing problems without starting again. Every mistake is a chance to learn, and every new challenge has expanded my knowledge and capacity."

For the future, Sandra is looking forward to finishing her backlog of patterns, collaborating with UK companies and starting a premium service for her followers. "And, overall, [I aim to] keep on inspiring others creatively, and with joy and courage."

Written by Alison Maney

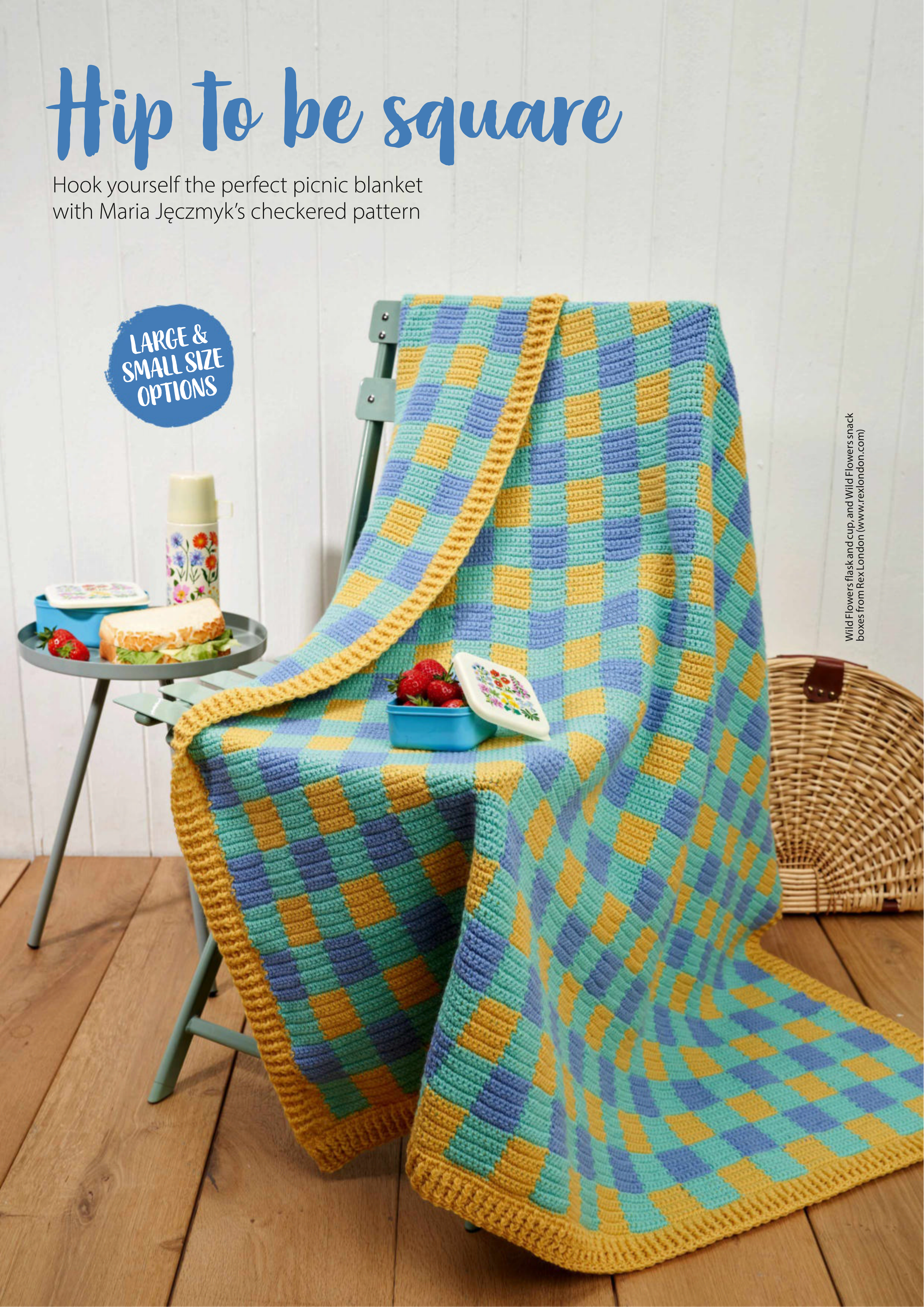
A few of her favourite things

When Sandra's away from her hooks…

"I particularly like to ride my e-bike, listen to a couple of interesting podcasts, schedule a coffee with my daughters (ages 17 and 15) and go to the beach with my husband." *Follow @littlegoldennook on Instagram and check out Sandra's patterns at Little Golden Nook on LoveCrafts and Ravelry*

Hip to be square

Hook yourself the perfect picnic blanket with Maria Jęczmyk's checkered pattern



LARGE & SMALL SIZE OPTIONS

Wild Flowers flask and cup, and Wild Flowers snack boxes from Rex London (www.rexlondon.com)

EASY PEASY

DK WEIGHT

4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- World of Wool Fluff
  (100% Merino wool, 50g/115m)
  9 (15) balls of Weekend Onesie (FDK321)
  7 (12) balls of Egg Nog (FDK004)
  4 (7) balls of Bobble Hat (FDK057)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists contact World of Wool 03300 564888 www.worldofwool.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Small Blanket measures approx 94x122cm (37x48in)

Large Blanket measures 126x150cm (49¾x59in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86

Whether you use it for picnics or for snoozing on the sofa, this throw will tick all the boxes.

NOTES

Pattern is written in 2 sizes: S and L. The Blanket pictured is made in the Large pattern. The main section is worked in rows using the tapestry technique. Change colour on the final yrh of stitch before colour change is indicated. Carry unused colour across the top of stitches, enclosing the strand as you work.

Edging is worked in rows along each side of the Blanket at the end.

BLANKET

Using Weekend Onesie, ch153 (201).

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 7 sts, *change to Egg Nog, dc in next 8 sts, change to Weekend Onesie, dc in next 8 sts; rep from * 8 (11) times more, turn.

[152 (200) sts]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in next 8 sts, *change to Egg Nog, dc in next 8 sts, change to Weekend Onesie, dc in next 8 sts; rep from * 1to end, turn.

Rows 3-8 As Row 2.

Fasten off Egg Nog.

Join Bobble Hat in first st.

Row 9 Ch1, dc in next 8 sts, *change to Weekend Onesie, dc in next 8 sts, change to Bobble Hat, dc in next 8 sts; rep from * to end, turn.

Rows 10-16 As Row 9.

Fasten off Bobble Hat.

Join Egg Nog in first st.

Rows 17-24 As Row 2.

Rep Rows 9-24 until 200 (248) rows have been worked in total.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

EDGING

Join Egg Nog to bottom-right corner and work along right edge of Blanket.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each row-end, turn.

[200 (248) sts]

Row 2 Ch1, htr in each st across, turn.

Rows 3-5 Ch1, (FPhtr around next st, BPhtr around next st), rep across to end, turn.

Fasten off.

Rep Edging on the opposite side of the Blanket.

Join Egg Nog in top-right corner (into row-end of right Edging).

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc across Edging, dc in each st across, top, 5dc In left edging, turn.

[162 (210) sts]

Rows 2-5 As Rows 2-5 of Edging.

Fasten off.

Rep across bottom edge of Blanket.

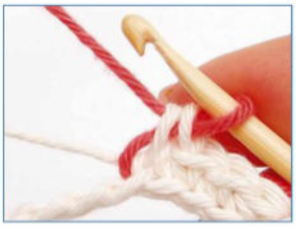
Weave in all ends.

SAVE OR SPLURGE

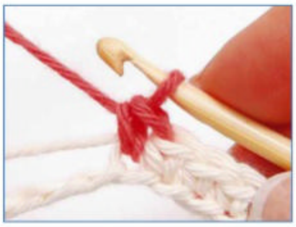
For a more budget-friendly make, try Stylecraft Life: 4 (6) balls of Mint (2342), 3 (5) balls of Daffodil (2394), 3 (2) balls of Ice Blue (2414). *Check hook size, tension and ball length if you use a different yarn.*

For yarn stockists contact www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

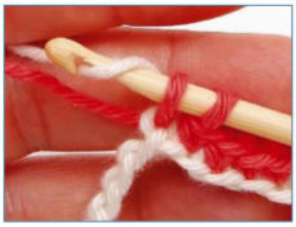
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK TAPESTRY COLOURWORK



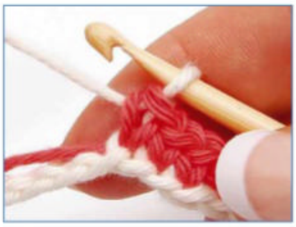
1 Work to the point where you want to change colour and on the last stitch in the first colour, work the final yrh using the second colour.



2 Work a stitch using the second colour, but hold the working end of the first colour on top of the stitches below and make sure you work the new stitch over the top of it, effectively encasing the first colour.



3 Continue working in this way, encasing the working end of the first colour. When you want to change colour again, use the same method as before: on the last stitch in the second colour, work the final yrh using the first colour.



4 It's important not to pull too tightly on the previous colour of yarn or it will pucker the fabric. Continue to work stitches using the first colour, over the top of the working end of the second colour.

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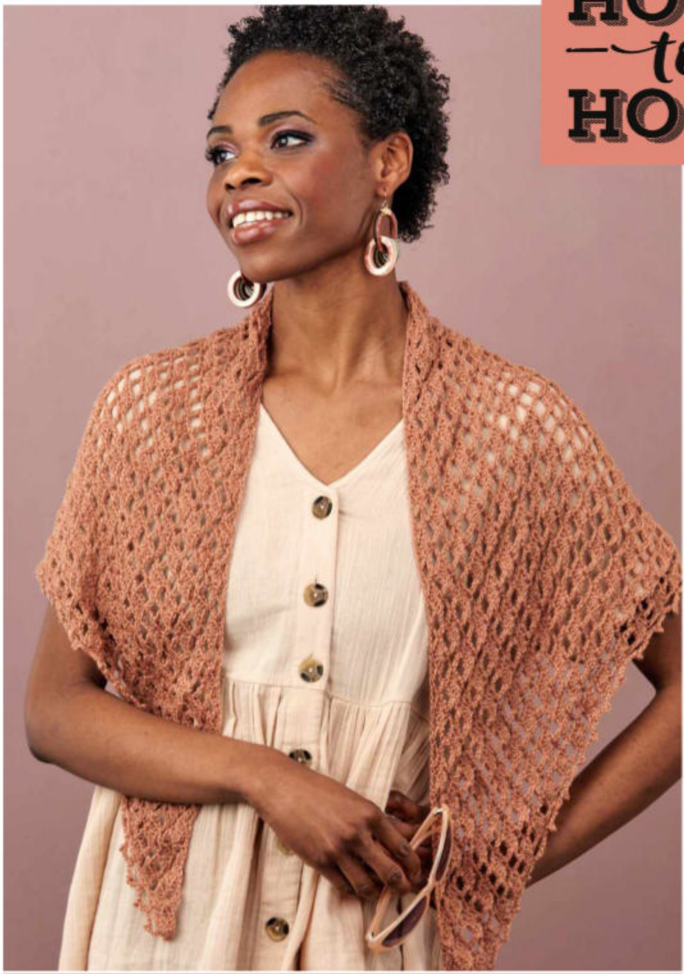
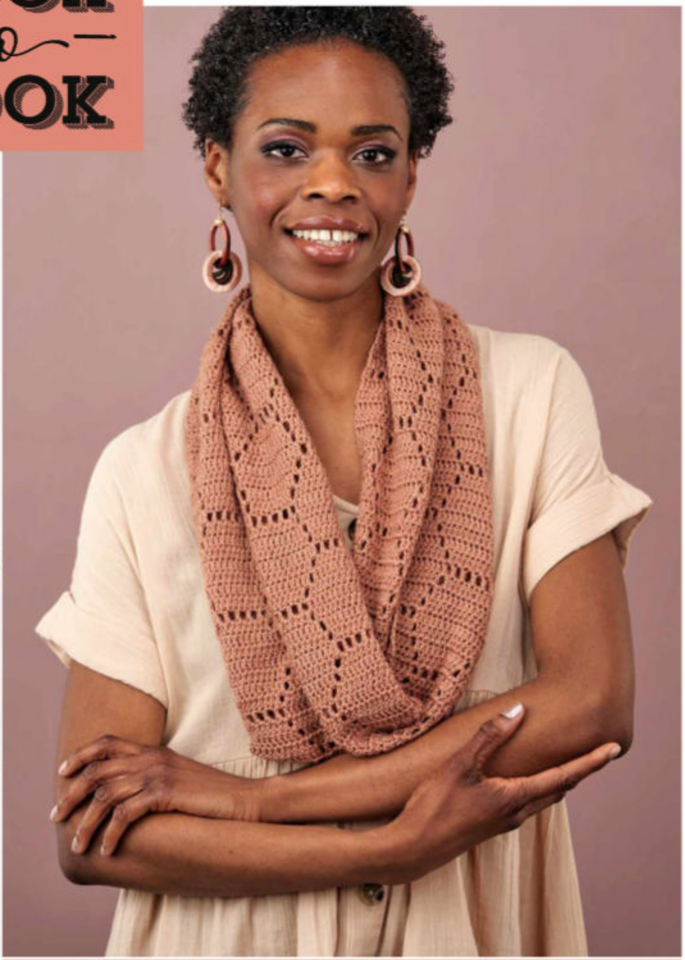
WIN

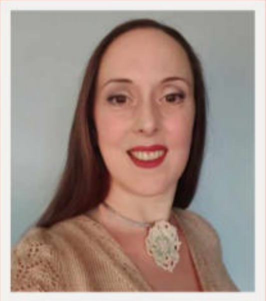
Keep it light

We challenged two designers to come up with a fab design, each using the same yarn… which is your fave?

HOOK
-to-
HOOK



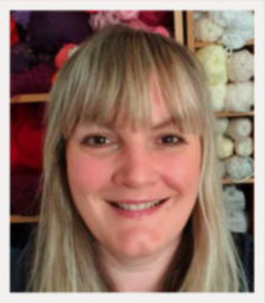




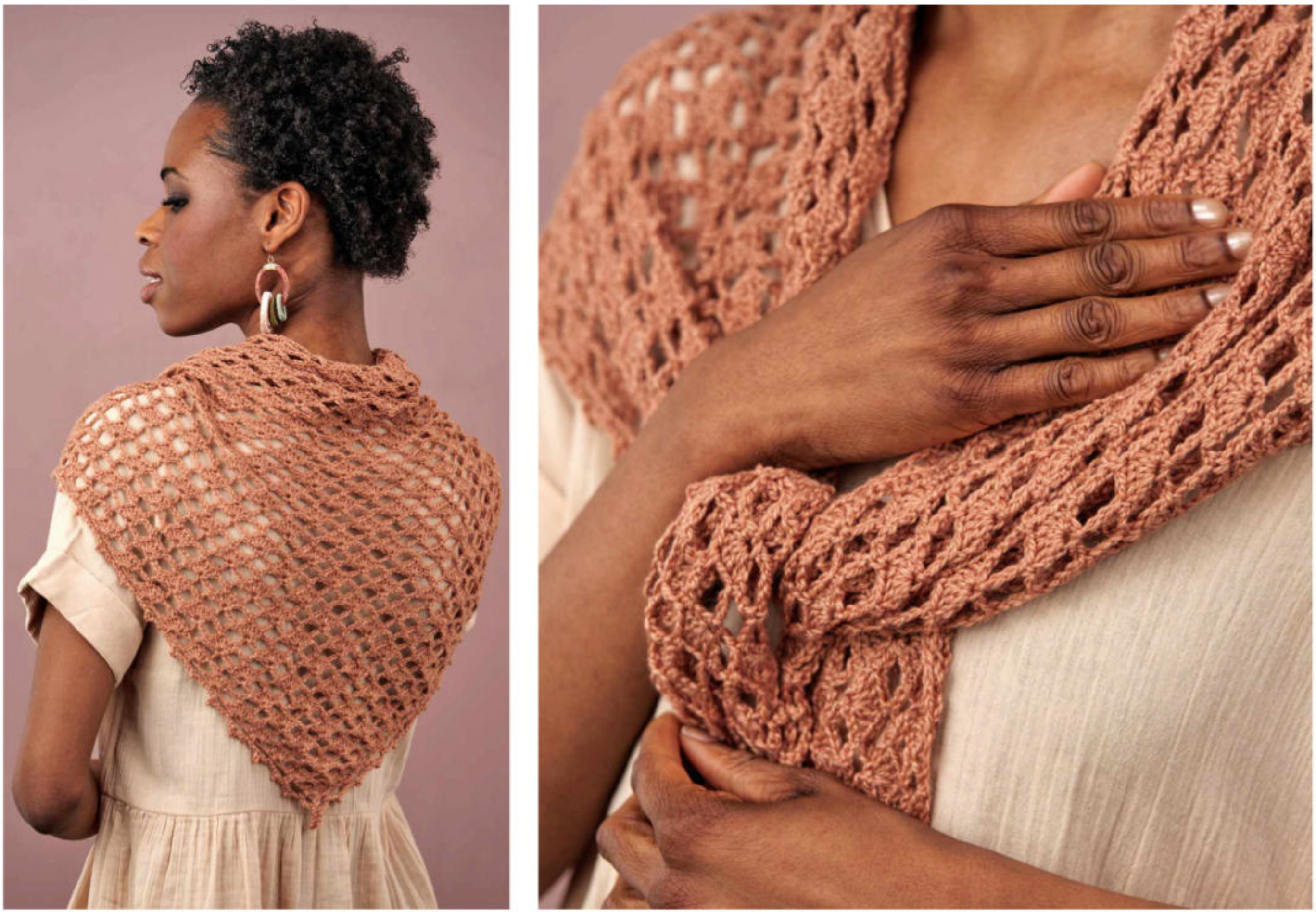
Joanne Fowler

"I was excited to create a shawl for this Hook to Hook challenge. I enjoy reading this feature in the magazine and seeing the yarns presented in different designs. I pictured this silky yarn as a fluid, draped shawl that could be worn on a sunset beach walk. This shell and chain loop stitch seemed perfect combined with a delicate border to create a pretty silhouette without extra weight." Find Joanna on Instagram at @madewithloveandfibres or at www.madewithloveandfibres.com

Hannah Barker



"The Hook to Hook challenge is one of my favourite features of the magazine, so I was excited to take part. I'm terrible at managing to keep shawls wrapped around me, so I decided to design an infinity shawl even I could keep on! My dad keeps bees, so honeycomb often features in my designs, and when I saw the chosen colour I knew I wanted to use this filet pattern, as it would set it off perfectly." You can find Hannah and all her making endeavours on Instagram at @haebarker



Left to right: the silky drape of the yarn made Joanna think of watching the sunset while walking on a beach, so she designed an openwork stitch pattern to create a light shawl for warm evenings; after the first seven rows, the shawl is worked as a two-row repeat until the end

SHELLS ON THE BEACH

Joanne Fowler's lacy wrap is perfect for draping over your shoulders for an outdoor stroll after the sun has gone down

- WYS Exquisite 4ply (80% wool, 20% silk, 100g/400m), 1 ball of Dusk (403)
- A 3.25mm (US D/3) hook

For yarn stockists contact WY Spinners 01535 664500 www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Shawl measures 150cm (59in) wide and 65cm (25½in) long excluding edging

ABBREVIATIONS

picot Ch3, ss in back loop of third ch from hook

For a full list, see page 86

NOTES

Shawl is worked in rows from the bottom up. A simple chain edging is added along the sides and a provide a decorative chain and picot edging. There is a Stitch Diagram on page 89, which you can refer to. Read all RS rows from right to left and WS from left to right. Rows 6-7 are repeated to end.

Chains are included in the stitch counts throughout.

SHELLS ON THE BEACH

Ch2.

Row 1 (WS) Dc in second ch from hook, turn. [1 st]

Row 2 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 6tr in dc, turn. [7 sts]

Row 3 Ch8 (counts as tr, ch5), dc in fourth tr of 7-tr group, ch5, tr in last st, turn. [13 sts]

Row 4 Ch3, 5tr in st at base of ch-3, dc in third ch of next ch-5 sp, ch5, dc in third ch of next ch-5 sp, 6tr in last st, turn. [19 sts]

Row 5 Ch8 (counts as tr, ch5), skip 2 sts, dc in next st, ch5, dc in third ch of next ch-5, ch5, skip 3 sts, dc in next st, ch5, tr in final st, turn. [25 sts]

Row 6 Ch3, 5tr in st at base of ch-3, *dc in third ch of next ch-5 sp, ch5, dc in third ch of next ch-5 sp , 5tr in next dc; rep from * to final 2 ch-sps, dc in third ch of next ch-5, ch5, dc in third ch of next ch-5, 6tr in last st in prev row, turn. [31 sts]

Row 7 Ch8 (counts as tr, ch5), skip 2 sts, dc in next st, *ch5, dc in third ch of next ch-5 sp, ch5, dc in third tr of next 5-tr group; rep from * to final st, ch5, tr in final st, turn. [37 sts]

Rows 8-62 Rep Rows 6-7 until Shawl measures approx 150cm wide, ending on a Row 6 rep. Do not fasten off.

EDGING

Round 1 (WS) Ch5, skip 2 sts, dc in fnext st, (ch3, dc in third ch of next ch-5 sp, ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next tr) rep to end, ch2, tr in final st, ch1, turn to work down row-end edge, picot, ch2, *dc in side of next row, ch3, picot, ch3**; rep from * to last row of side, dc in final row, ch4, (dc, ch3, picot, ch3, dc) in base of Row 1, ch4; rep from * to ** to end of round, ss to third ch of beg ch-5.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

For best results, block to measurements listed.

Left to right: Hannah's design is inspired by her father, who is a beekeeper – as a result, honeycomb shapes feature in lots of Hannah's designs; work the filet pattern as a flat rectangle of fabric, then twist the piece to form the cowl shape and slip stitch the short ends together

HONEYCOMB COWL

Hannah Barker's infinity scarf features dainty hexies – it'll bee an amazing addition to your wardrobe!

- WYS Exquisite 4ply (80% wool, 20% silk, 100g/400m), 1 ball of Dusk (403)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

For yarn stockists, see Shells on the Beach

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Cowl measures approx 36x114cm (14¼x45in)

NOTES

Cowl is worked in rows. The short edges are seamed together at the end to form the cowl shape.

You can adapt the width by changing the foundation ch, working a mutliple of 24+17.

You can adapt the length by working more or fewer repeats in the pattern.

HONEYCOMB COWL

Ch65.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in third ch from hook, tr in next 8 ch, *(ch1, skip 1 ch, tr in next ch) 5 times, tr in next 14 ch; rep from * once more, (ch1, skip 1 ch, tr in next ch) 3 times, turn. [50 sts, 13 ch-1 sps]

Row 2 (WS) Ch2 (does not count as st throughout), tr in first 6 sts, *ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 13 sts, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 9 sts; rep from * once more, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 8 sts, turn. [58 sts, 5 ch-1 sps]

Row 3 Ch2, tr in first 7 sts, *ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 11 sts; rep from * 3 times more, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 7 sts, turn.

Row 4 Ch2, tr in next 8 sts, *ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 9 sts, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 13 sts; rep from * once more, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 6 sts, turn.

Row 5 Ch2, (tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) 3 times, tr in next 15 sts, (ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st) 5 times, tr in next 14 sts, (ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st) 5 times, tr in next 8 sts, turn.
[50 sts, 13 ch-1 sps]

Row 6 Ch2, tr in next 8 sts, *ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 9 sts, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 13 sts; rep from * once more, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 6 sts, turn. [58 sts, 5 ch-1 sps]

Row 7 Ch2, tr in next 7 sts, *ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 11 sts; rep from * 3 times more, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 7 sts, turn.

Row 8 Ch2, tr in next 6 sts, *ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 13 sts, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 9 sts; rep from * once, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next 8 sts, turn.

Row 9 Ch2, tr in next 9 sts, *(ch1, skip 1 st, 1tr) 5 times, tr in next 14 sts; rep from * once, (ch1, skip st, 1tr) 3 times, turn. [50 sts, 13 ch-1 sps]

Rows 10-96 Rep rows 2-9 another 11 times, on the final repeat ending with a Row 8 rep.

Fasten off.

For best results, block to measurements listed.

TO FINISH

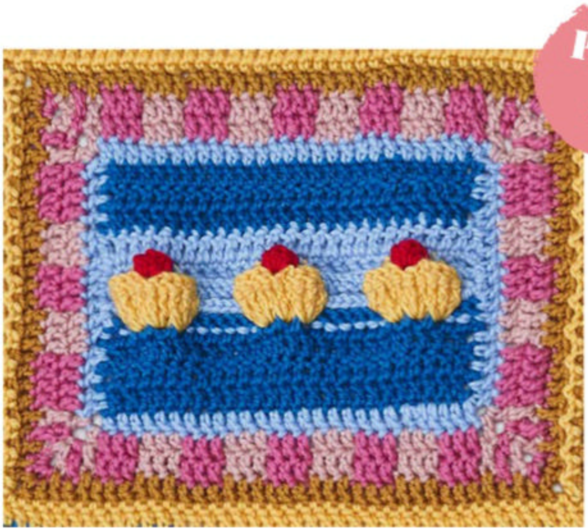
Twist the rectangle twice to form the shape.
With WS facing, ss the 2 short ends together.
Fasten off and weave in all ends.

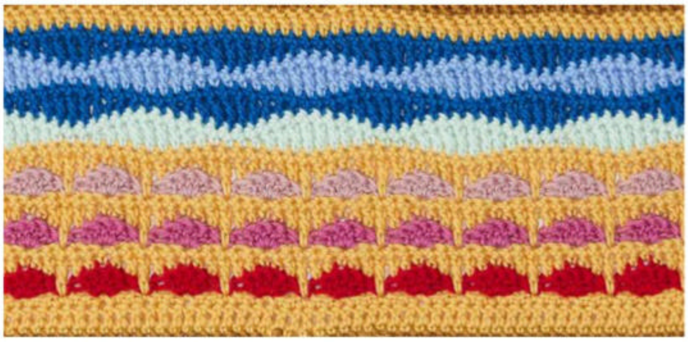
Golden
Moments

Golden MOMENTS BLANKET

Cherish the small yet special experiences that make life worth living with Eleonora Tully's ode to time spent with family, nature and your passions

PART 4





Make with rectangles

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

DK WEIGHT

4.5MM 5MM

YOU WILL NEED

Materials are for the whole Blanket

- Rico Design Essentials Merino DK (100% virgin wool, 50g/120m)
  5 balls Yellow (65)
  3 balls Mustard (70)
  2 balls of each:
  Green (42)
  Light Blue (34)
  Cobalt Blue (29)
  Pearl Pink (16)
  Orchid (07)
  Navy (28)
  1 ball of each:
  Red (05)
  Light Mint (33)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

For yarn stockists contact Rico Design www.rico-design.de

TENSION

19 sts and 12 rows to meas 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 4.5mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

Finished Blanket measures approx 90x115cm (35x45in)

Shell Strip measures 78x15cm (30¾x6in)

Coffee and Cake Rectangle measures 20x15cm (8x6in)

ABBREVIATIONS

BPtr3tog *Yrh, insert hook round back post of next st across, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops; rep from * twice more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

bobble *Yrh, inset hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops; rep from * 4 times more, yrh with Light Blue and pull through all loops on hook, fasten off Red at end of each bobble

For a full list, see page 86

Where do you find your joy? Is it in a beautiful sunset, a hug from a loved one or a favourite song? Celebrate the moments that bring you happiness with a blanket made of beautifully detailed rectangle motifs. The pattern is spread over six issues. Crochet along with us!

NOTES

CAL consists of six parts.

The Blanket is constructed by combining Rectangles that are joined together to form long panels. Panels are separated by sections worked in rows.

The 5mm hook is only used in Part 3; the remainder is worked using a 4.5mm hook.

Change colour on the final yrh of st before colour change is indicated. If using 2 colours in one row, carry unused colour across the top of the sts, enclosing the strand as you work.

We recommend blocking the Rectangles to the measurements listed before joining.

When joining the Rectangles together, you can use either Yellow or Mustard.

BLANKET

PART 4

SHELL STRIP

Rows are worked across the top of Part 3.

Using a 4.5mm hook, join Yellow in top-right corner of Moments Rectangle.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not counts as st throughout), dc in same corner ch-sp, dc in next 59 sts, dc in next 2 ch-sps, dc in next 21 sts, dc in next 2 ch-sps, dc in next 59 sts, dc in final ch-sp, turn. [145 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each st across, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Change to Red.

Row 4 Ch1, dc in first st, (skip 2 sts, 5tr in next st, skip 2 sts, dc in next st) 24 times, , turn. [24 shells]

Change to Yellow.

Row 5 Ch3, *tr in bl of next st, htr in bl of next st, dc in bl of next st, htr in bl of next st, tr in bl of next st, dtr in st 2 rows below (st at base of dc), skip dc; rep from * across to final st, tr in final st, turn. [145 sts]

Row 6 Ch1, dc in each st across, do not turn.

Place live loop of Yellow on a stitch marker.

Join Orchid in first st from Row 6.

Row 7 (WS) As Row 4.

Place live loop of Yellow back on hook.

Rows 8-9 As Rows 5-6.

Place live loop of Yellow on a stitch marker.

Join Pearl Pink in first st from Row 9.

Row 10 (WS) As Row 4.

Place live loop of Yellow back on hook.

Rows 11-12 As Rows 5-6.

Change to Light Mint.

Row 13 Ch4 (counts as dtr), dtr in next st, *tr in next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc in next 3 sts, htr in next st, tr in next 2 sts, dtr in next 3 sts; rep from * 11 times more omitting final st on last rep, turn.

Row 14 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Change to Cobalt Blue.

Row 15 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, *htr in next 2 sts, tr in next st, dtr in next 3 sts, tr in next st, htr in next 2 sts, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * 11 times more omitting final st on last rep, turn.

Row 16 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Change to Light Blue.

Rows 17-20 Repeat Rows 13-16.

Change to Yellow.

Row 21 Ch3, tr in each st across.

Fasten off.

COFFEE AND CAKE RECTANGLE (MAKE 2)

Using a 4.5mm hook and Cobalt Blue, ch29.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in each ch to end, turn. [27 sts]

Rows 2-4 Ch3, tr in each st across, turn.

Change to Light Blue.

Row 5 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), BPtr around next 2 sts, change to Yellow, *3FPtr around each of next 3 sts, change to Light Blue**, BPtr around next 6 sts, change to Yellow; rep from * twice more ending final rep at **, BPtr around next 2 sts, htr in final st, turn. [45 sts]

Row 6 Ch2, FPtr around next 2 sts, change to Yellow, *BPtr around next 9 sts, change to Light Blue**, FPtr around next 6 sts, change to Yellow; rep from * twice more ending final rep at **, FPtr around next 2 sts, htr in final st, turn. [45 sts]

Row 7 Ch2, BPtr around next 2 sts, change to Yellow, *(BPtr3tog) 3 times, change to Light Blue **, BPtr around next 6 sts, change to Yellow; rep from * twice more ending final rep at **, BPtr around next 2 sts, htr in final st, do not turn. [27 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Light Blue in first st from Row 7.

Row 8 (RS) Ch1, dc in first 4 sts, *change to Red, bobble in fifth BPtr from 9-BPtr group from Row 6, skip 1 st on current row**, dc in next 8 sts; rep from * twice more ending final rep at **, dc in next 4 sts, turn. [27 sts]

Row 9 (WS) Ch3, tr in each st across, turn.

Change to Cobalt Blue.

Rows 10-12 Ch3, tr in each st across.

Fasten off.

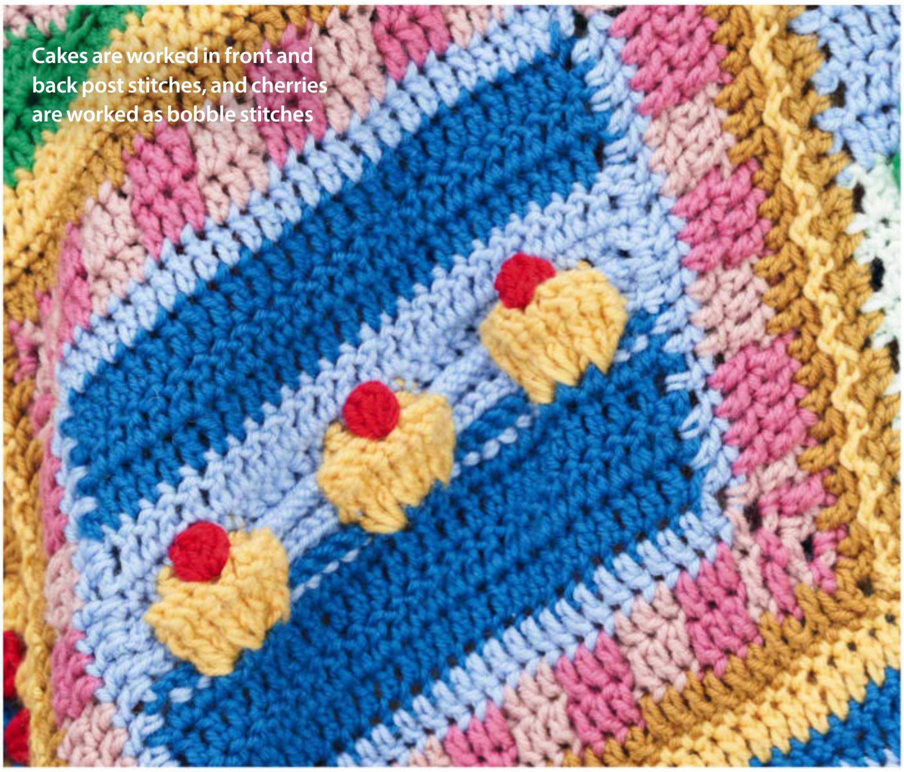
BORDER

Using a 4.5mm hook, join Light Blue in first st from Row 12.

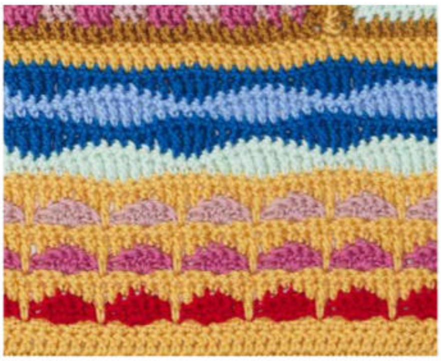
Round 1 (RS) Ch3, tr in each st across to end, ch2, 17tr down row-end edge, ch2, tr in each st across bottom edge, ch2, 17tr down row-end edge, ch2, ss to top of beg ch-3. [88 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

For Rounds 2-5, do not fasten off the yarn when changing colour. Pull the yarn through the loop



Cakes are worked in front and back post stitches, and cherries are worked as bobble stitches



Work the shell strip directly from the Moments rectangle from part 3 of the CAL

to close the round and leave the strand on the WS of the work ready to pick up again when instructed.

Join Pearl Pink in top-right ch-2 sp.

Round 2 Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2 throughout), tr in same ch-sp, *(ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 3 sts) 4 times, ch4, skip final 3 sts, (tr, ch2, tr) in corner ch-sp, ch5, skip 4 sts, tr in next 3 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 3 sts, ch5, skip 4 sts**, (tr, ch2, tr) in ch-sp; rep from * to **, ss to third ch of beg ch-5.
[44 sts, 4 ch-2 corner sps, 12 ch-4 sps, 4 ch-5 sps]

On Rounds 3-5, work sts in front of the ch-sps across the sides.

Join Orchid in bottom-left ch-sp and work into the skipped sts from Round 1.

Round 3 Ch1, *(dc, ch2, dc) in corner ch-sp, ch2, skip 1 st, (tr in next 3 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts) 4 times, tr in next 3 sts, ch2, skip final st of side, (dc, ch2, dc) in corner ch-sp, ch2, skip 1 st, tr in next 4 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 3 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 4 sts, ch2, skip final st of side; rep from * once more, ss to beg dc.
[60 sts, 12 ch-2 sps, 12 ch-4 sps]

Join Pearl Pink in top-right corner ch-sp.

Round 4 Ch5, tr in same corner ch-sp, *ch2, skip 1 st, tr in skipped st in Round 2, (ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 3 sts) 4 times, ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next skipped st in Round 2, ch2, skip final st of side, (tr, ch2, tr) in corner ch-sp, ch2, skip 1 st, tr in skipped st in Round 2, ch5, skip 4 sts, tr in next 3 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 3 sts, ch5, skip 4 sts, tr in next skipped st in Round 2, ch2, skip final st of side**, (tr, ch2, tr) in corner ch-sp; rep from * to ** once more, ss to third ch of beginning ch-5. [52 sts, 12 ch-2 sps, 12 ch-4 sps, 4 ch-5 sps]

Join Orchid in corner ch-sp.

Round 5 Ch1 (does not count as st), *(dc, ch2, dc) in corner ch-sp, ch2, skip 1 st, tr in skipped st in Round 3, ch2, skip 1 st, (tr in next 3 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts) 4 times, tr in next 3 sts, ch2, skip 1 st, tr in skipped st in Round 3, ch2, skip 1 st, (dc, ch2, dc) in corner ch-sp, ch2, skip 1 st, tr in skipped st in Round 3, ch2, skip 1 st, tr in next 4 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 3 sts, ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next 4 sts, ch2, skip 1 st, tr in skipped st in Round 3, ch2, skip 1 st; rep from * once more, ss to beg dc. [68 sts, 20 ch-2 sps, 12 ch-4 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Mustard in top-right corner.

Round 6 Ch5, tr in same corner ch-sp, *(tr in next st, tr in skipped st in Round 4) twice, (tr in next 3 sts, tr in next 3 skipped sts in Round 4) 4 times, tr in next 3 sts, (tr in skipped st in Round 4, tr in next st) twice, (tr, ch2, tr) in corner ch-sp, (tr in next st, tr in skipped st in Round 4) twice, tr in next 4 sts, tr in next 3 skipped sts in Round 4, tr in next 3 sts, tr in next 3 skipped sts in Round 4, tr in next 4 sts, (tr in skipped st in Round 4, tr in next st) twice**, (tr, ch2, tr) in corner ch-sp; rep from * to ** once more, ss to third ch of beginning ch-5. [128 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

SHOW US YOURS!

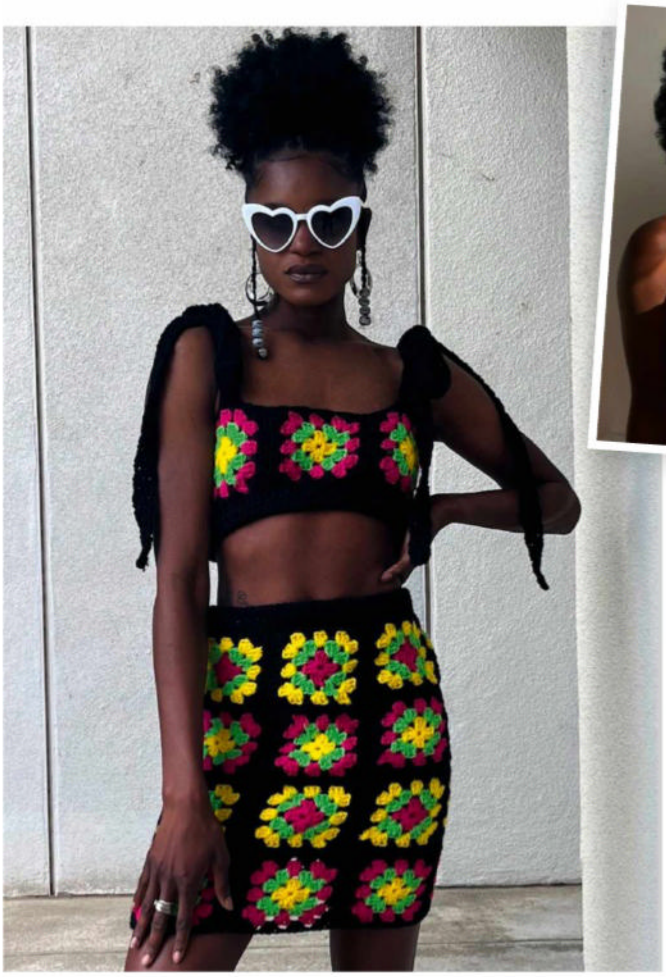
Share your progress with us!
Join our group at www.facebook.com/groups/SCtreblemakers and tag your pics on Facebook and Instagram as #goldenmomentsCAL

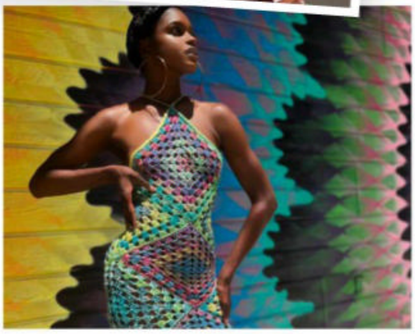
IN ASSOCIATION WITH RICO DESIGN

Figure-hugging fashion is taking the crochet world by storm. Handmade is hot!

Bodycon bonanza!

Handmade can be bold and youthful too! As the temperature rises, so does the popularity of form-fitting, on-trend crochet outfits. Let's meet the makers...





Clockwise from left: a set by Jessica of The Stitch Snitch; a crop top by Sierra of Crolage; a mini dress by The Stitch Snitch.

We saw a lot of strappy, figure-hugging crochet clothing hit the high street last year, and it looks like the trend is more than just a summer romance. With high-end fashion houses featuring alluring crochet on the catwalks, as well as a new wave of indie designers releasing more form-fitting designs, a new contemporary edge has arrived as an alternative to looser silhouettes. We chatted to four designers about why crochet is trending for another season in the sun...

YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL

"In a world of fast fashion, I think people really want to see sustainable art again," says Jessica, the designer behind The Stitch Snitch on Etsy, which sells patterns for flirty mini-skirts, form-fitting dresses and halter tops. "Many crocheters, like myself, learned to crochet during the pandemic, and we're injecting modern fashion trends into the age-old tradition, embracing a more contemporary approach to the craft."

To engage younger, more fashion-conscious audiences and keep the tradition of crochet alive, Jessica sees an exciting evolution taking place, with many becoming curious about what pairing figure-hugging silhouettes with beautiful crochet stitch combinations can create.

Handcrafted clothing has become notably more popular since the pandemic, a time when people embraced learning new skills. And with this vanguard of crocheters comes a fresh perspective, with form-fitting designs and unconventional patterns and colours emerging as new trends. "These designs serve as a valuable form of self-expression and individuality for younger crocheters – myself included," says Nicole of The Crocheting, whose designs include not only slinky dresses and twin sets but also saucy filet stitch cutouts, quirky appliqué and unexpected silhouettes. "I can't wait to see more of how each crocheter challenges the status quo," she says.

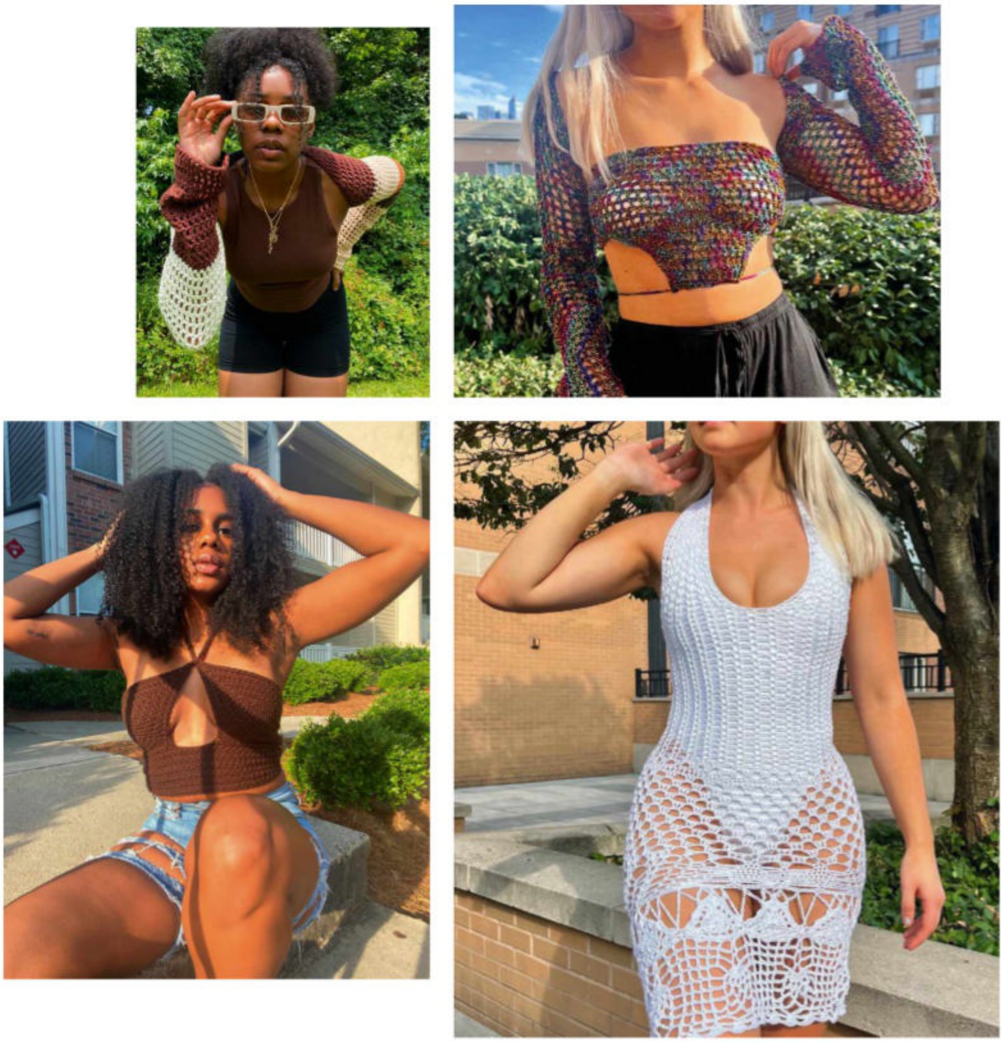
"My customers who are drawn to bolder, more form-fitting designs are typically younger women who are looking to design an exciting, eye-catching wardrobe," Nicole explains. "I often hear that my designs are a favourite because they're unlike anything else out there – and that speaks volumes to me." When thinking about her pieces, Nicole designs for the audience that is looking to break out from the crowd and embrace what makes them unique.

Sierra Ndagire's brand, Crolage, has gained huge popularity over the past few years, due to her innovative designs that are made to celebrate women's bodies. Full of custom and ready-to-wear pieces that hug curves and stand out from the crowd, Crolage was thrown into the international spotlight when Love Island host Maya Jama wore a piece from Sierra's collection on the ITV dating show. "I think bodycon clothing had become quite repetitive and giving it texture is what crochet does," says Sierra. "With crochet you can [take] thread that isn't stretchy at all and give it whatever level of stretch you desire. That versatility makes it such a great medium, and I personally think there's no rules with it."

HOW TO DO IT

When it comes to the technical side of making a figure-hugging item from yarn, each designer follows their own process. "To get a bodycon-style crochet piece, the tighter the stitch, the snugger it will be, so I like to opt for a slip stitch or single crochet stitch [a double crochet stitch in the UK]," explains Nicole. However, the designer has learned that sizing is critical to get the perfect fit without the garment becoming too tight or too loose, so the very first thing Nicole does is to create the perfect gauge – tension truly matters here!

Jessica recommends stitches that are easy to increase and decrease, as these techniques give bodycon styles their signature shape. "It's possible to translate boxy stitch combinations into bodycon crochet as well,



Clockwise from top left: crochet sleeves by Jade Ann of AnnsClst; a form-fitting crop top by Nicole of The Crocheting; openwork crochet makes this mini dress from The Crocheting even bolder; a crop top from AnnsClst

but this may require more crochet experience," says Jessica.

SPREADING POSITIVITY

The bodycon trend is also tied to the body positive trend, and sees designers creating beguiling outfits for every size and shape.

"Unlike conventional clothing sold in stores, crochet clothing can be made to your exact measurements," explains Jade Ann Gibbs, the designer behind AnnsClst, a site filled with ready-made and patterns for crochet crop tops and bikinis. "You can create items that flatter your body in the best ways."

Sierra agrees. When designing her bodycon crochet pieces, she says her main goal is to empower her buyer, no matter what shape or size, age or gender they are. "I want people to feel confident," she says.

And Jessica's crochet patterns cater to sizes XS-6XL, which means even people who don't fit into high-street clothes can enjoy making and wearing modern, close-fitting and stretchy styles in their size. "I've had feedback like, 'I never thought I could wear this' and 'I'm glad I stepped outside of my comfort zone' from crocheters who have historically taken a cosier approach to crochet," says Jessica. "But the cool thing is, there are no rules to fashion. Wear what makes you feel good!"

ELEVATED STYLE

Once synonymous with festivals, beach cover-ups and the like, crochet has been adopted by high-end designers, including The Row and Marine Serre, elevating it from hobby craft to chic and modern. Crochet garments are now worn for every occasion, from beach trips to nights out. "These pieces naturally stand out because they're handmade, one-of-a-kind pieces, and when paired with bodycon silhouettes, that we normally see outside of crochet, the combination is truly stunning," says Jessica.

The designers' love for own their designs also gives them a better understanding of their customers' wants and needs. "When I wear one of my pieces, I feel confident because I'm designing what makes me feel most like 'me'," explains Nicole. "I encourage anyone who buys one of my crochet patterns to reach out if they want to customise their look, because part of what I'm looking to share with others is the ability to design your own clothes that make you feel powerful and most like yourself! For me, that's colourful, interesting, and edgier designs – but it can be different for everyone."

The power of sustainability mixed with unique fashion means this rise in modern crochet is liberating the art form, giving power to both designers and consumers. "It's starting to slowly rise over fast fashion," says Sierra. "And crocheting is a simple technique to learn – everyone can have a go. There are so many creators on Instagram who have had such a big impact that it's so hard to ignore. They have shown that it can be fun, it can be sexy, and you can make anything with it."

And with all yarn crafts becoming more inclusive and accessible, anyone can enter the arena. "Also, with climate change still in full swing, I think many people are creating more and shopping less," says Jessica. "The possibilities with crochet are limitless; all you need is yarn, a hook and a pair of scissors to create almost anything you want. And why not create a piece that celebrates your figure and turns heads at the same time?"

Written by Colette Earley

Jessica: @the.stitch.snitch
Nicole: @crocheting
Sierra: @crolage
Ann: @annsclst

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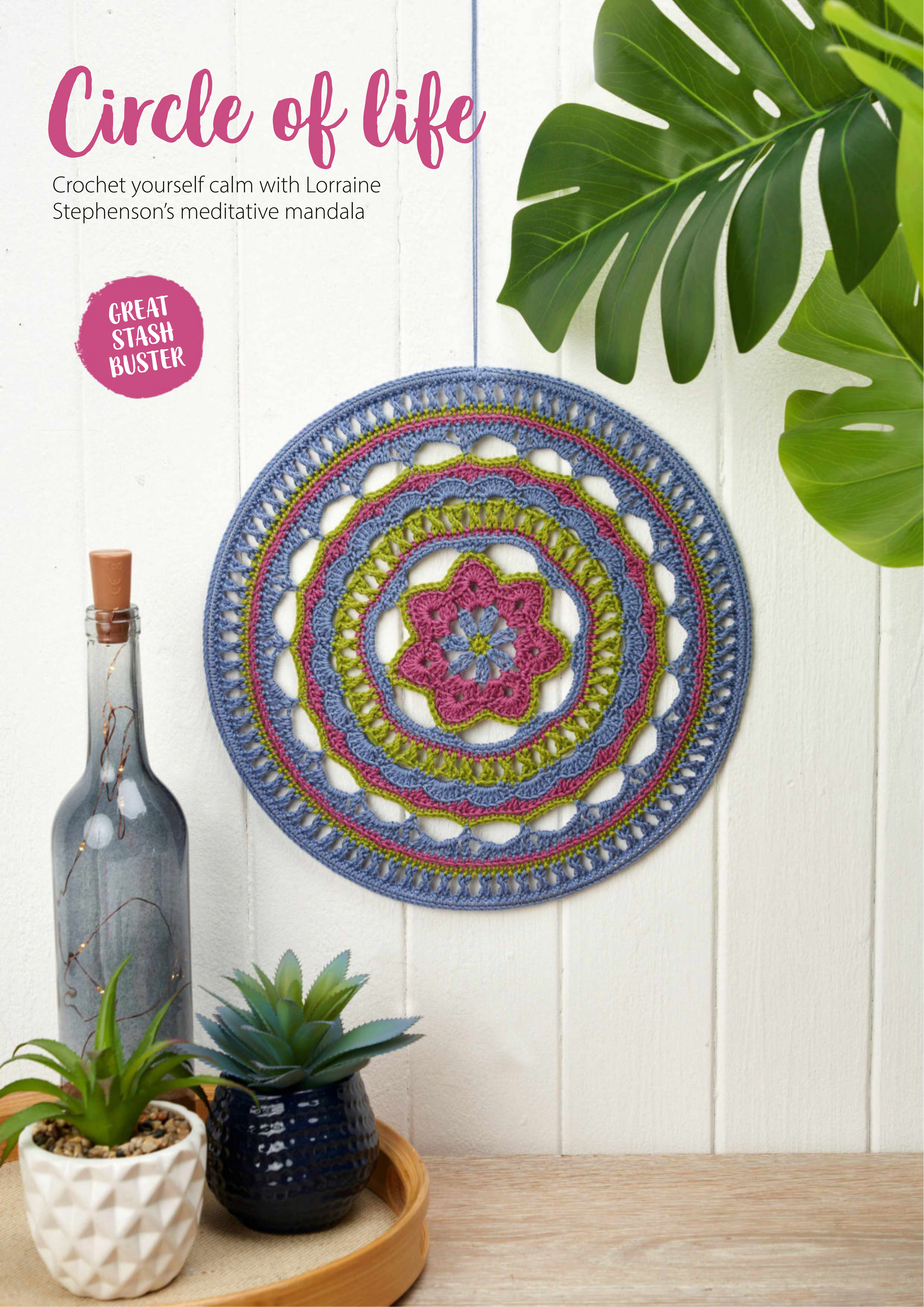
Circle of life

Crochet yourself calm with Lorraine Stephenson's meditative mandala

GREAT STASH BUSTER



A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

4PLY WEIGHT

3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan Summerlite 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/175m)
  1 ball of each:
  Pickle (449)
  Periwinkle (424)
  Pinched Pink (426)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A metal hoop, 30cm diameter (available from bit.ly/42UCZCr)

For yarn stockists contact Rowan 01924 371501 www.knitrowan.com

TENSION

Rounds 1-5 measures 10cm (4in) in diameter using a 3mm hook, or size to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Before joining to hoop, Mandala measures 28cm (11in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

invisible join Fasten off and pull loop on hook so that the tail comes out of the top of the final st. Thread the tail onto tapestry needle, insert needle through top of second st of the round from front to back. Insert needle through back loop only of final st of round. Pull so that a false st is created over the first st, trying to keep it the same size as the other sts of the round. Weave in end.

standing st Standing sts are used to join a new colour without a turning ch. Place a slip knot on your hook (this counts as the first loop on your hook), work st as normal holding the slip knot in place with your index finger to prevent it twisting until you finish the st

For a full list, see page 86

SCAN ME

Scan this code to check out the designer's handy stitch tutorials

While we've used soft summer shades for our mandala, you can make this circular beauty in any colour combination you choose.

NOTES

Mandala is worked in rounds with RS facing throughout, then joined to the hoop on the final round.

Chain sps are counted as sts throughout.

Where directed to work a tr in each st around, this includes each ch where applicable.

Scan the QR code to see Lorraine's videos on standing stitch and invisible join.

MANDALA

CENTRE FLOWER

Using Pickle, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 7dc into loop, ss to first dc to join. [7 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Periwinkle with a standing dtr in any st.

Round 2 Dtr in same st as standing dtr, ch3, (2dtr in next st, ch3) 6 times, ss to beg st. [35 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Pinched Pink with a standing tr in any ch-sp.

Round 3 (2tr, ch3, 3tr) in same ch-sp, ch1, *(3tr, ch3, 3tr) in next ch-sp, ch1; rep from * around, ss to beg st. [70 sts]

Round 4 9tr in next ch-3 sp, dc in next ch-1 sp, 9tr in next ch-3 sp, dc in next ch-1 sp; rep from * around, to top of beg tr. [70 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Pickle with a standing dc in bl of fifth tr of any 9-tr group.

Round 5 (Working in bl throughout), dc in same st, dc in next 9 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts) rep to end, ss in first dc. [77 sts]

Fasten off.

OUTER MANDALA

Join Periwinkle with a standing dc in bl of first st.

Round 6 (Working in bl throughout) dc in same st, 2dc in next st, ch9, skip 9 sts, *2dc in next 2 sts, ch9, skip 9 sts; rep from * around, ss in first dc. [91 sts]

Round 7 Ch1, (does not count as st throughout), dc in first 4 sts, 8dc in ch-sp, (dc in next 4 sts, 8dc in ch-sp) rep around, ss to beg st. [84 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Pinched Pink with a standing dc in bl of any st.

Round 8 Dc in bl of each st around, invisible join.

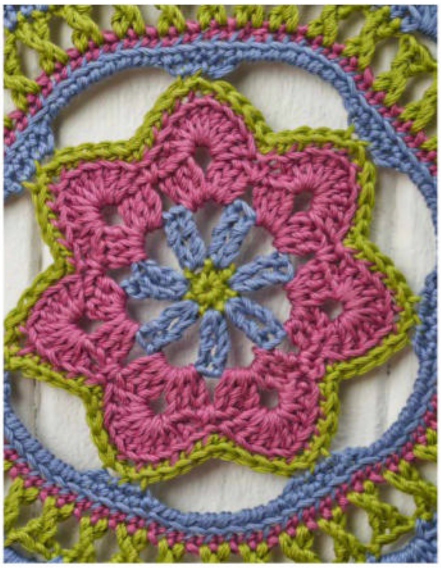
Join Pickle with a standing dtr in of any st.

Round 9 Dtr in st before st at base of standing st, ch1, (skip 1 st, dtr in next st, dtr in skipped st, ch1) rep around, ss to beg st. [126 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Periwinkle with a standing dc in first st.

Round 10 Dc in next st, dc in ch-1 sp, ch3, skip 3 sts, *dc in next 2 sts, dc in next ch-1 sp, ch3, skip 3 sts; rep from * around, ss to beg st.



The centre of the mandala is a seven-pointed motif worked in trebles and double trebles

Round 11 Ss in next dc, ch1, dc in same dc, skip next dc, 6tr in ch-sp, *skip next dc, dc in next dc, skip next dc, 6tr in next ch-sp; rep from * around, ss to beg st. [147 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Pinched Pink with a standing tr in bl of any dc.

Round 12 (Working in bl throughout) Htr in next 2 tr, dc in next 2 tr, htr in next 2 tr, *tr in dc, htr in next 2 tr, dc in next 2 tr, htr in next 2 tr; rep from * around, ss to beg tr.

Fasten off.

Join Pickle with a standing dc in bl of any st.

Round 13 Dc in bl of each st around, invisible join. [147 sts]

Join Periwinkle with a standing dc in dc worked into tr from Round 12.

Round 14 Ch8, skip 6 sts, (dc in next st, ch8, skip 6 sts) rep around, ss to beg st. [189 sts]

Round 15 Ch4 (counts as dtr), (2tr, htr, dc, htr, 2tr) in next ch-sp, *dtr in next dc, (2tr, htr, dc, htr, 2tr) in next ch-sp; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-4. [168 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Pinched Pink with a standing dc in any st.

Round 16 Dc in each st around, ss in beg dc.

Fasten off.

Join Pickle with a standing dc in bl of any st.

Round 17 Dc in bl of each st around, invisible join.

Join Periwinkle with a standing dtr in any st.

Round 18 Dtr in st before st at base of standing st, ch1, (skip 1 st, dtr in next st, dtr in skipped st, ch1) rep around, ss to beg st. [252 sts]

JOIN TO HOOP

Work next round around the hoop to join the Mandala.

Round 19 Ch1, dc in each st and ch around, invisible join. Weave in all ends.

The home of The Knitter Simply Knitting Simply Crochet

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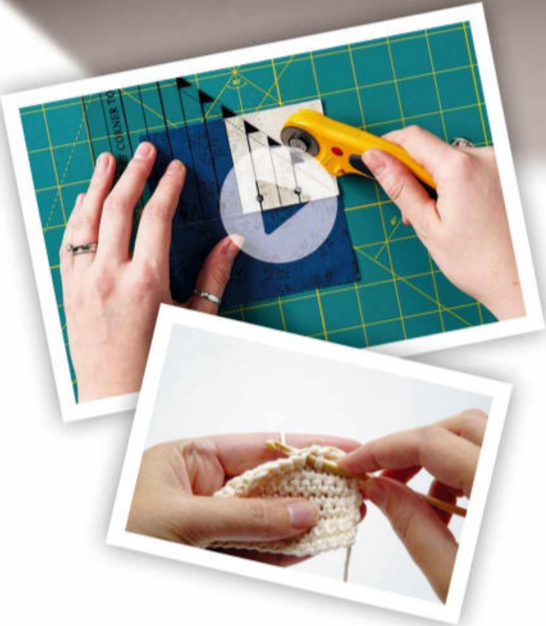

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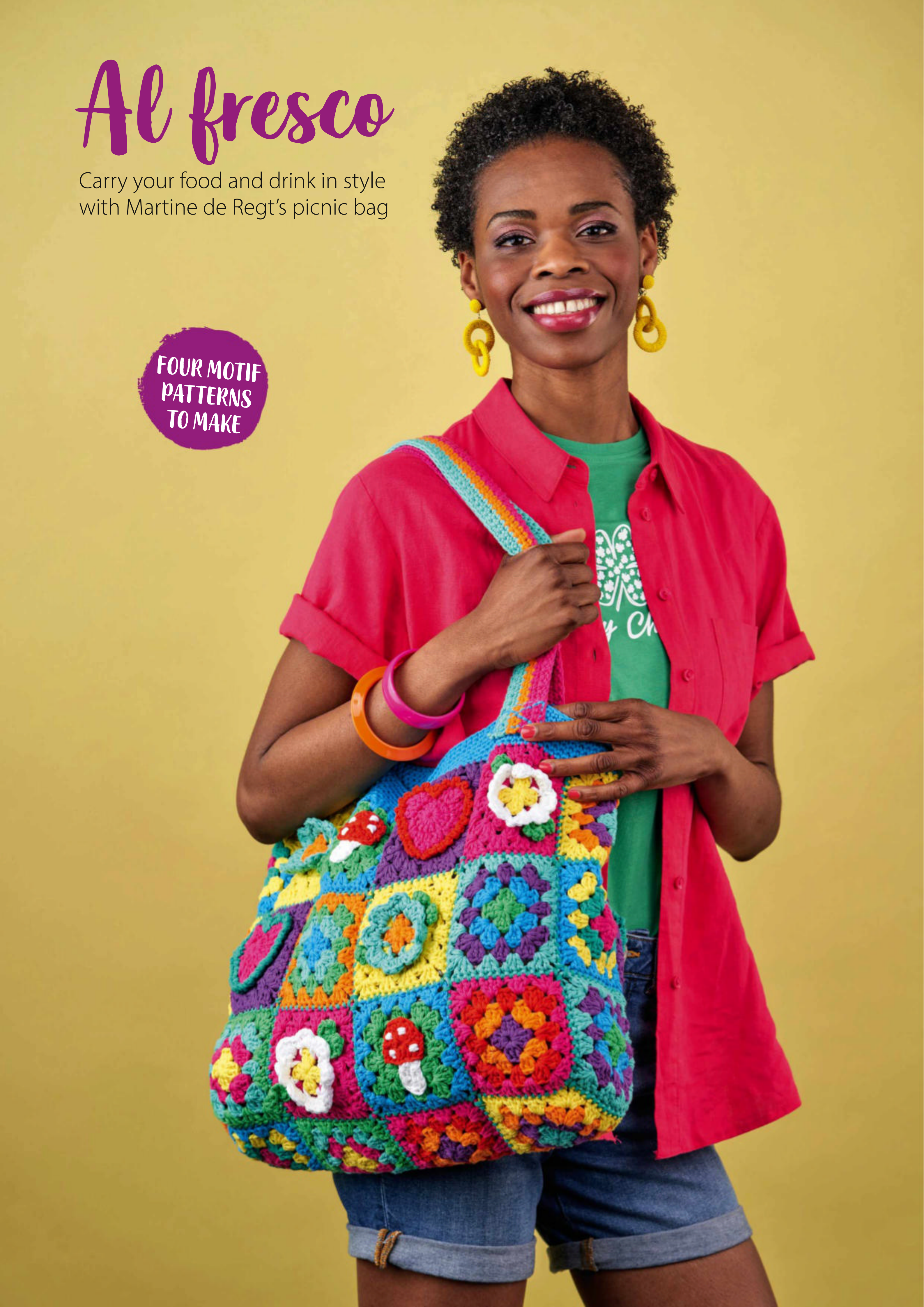

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

ARAN WEIGHT

4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Cahlista
  (100g cotton, 50g/85m)
  3 balls of each:
  Yarn D Shocking Pink (114)
  Yarn I Vivid Blue (146)
  2 balls of each:
  Yarn A Lemon (280)
  Yarn B Tangerine (281)
  Yarn C Poppy Rose (390)
  Yarn E Ultra Violet (282)
  Yarn F Apple Green (389)
  Yarn G Jade (514)
  Yarn H Tropic (253)
  1 ball of **Yarn J** Snow White (106)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

Rounds 1-4 of Granny Square measures 11x11cm (4¼x4¼in)

MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures approx 44x40cm (17¼x15¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86

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There's so much detail to love in this vibrant picnic bag – our favourite square is the super-cute spotted toadstool!

NOTES

Bag is made up of 34 Squares.
All motifs are worked in rounds with RS facing throughout.

BAG

BASIC GRANNY SQUARES (MAKE 18)

Make 3 in each colour combination.
Using Yarn H (D: I: F: A: E), make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in loop, ch2, (3tr in loop, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Yarn E (G: H: I: D: B) in any ch-2 sp.
Round 2 (RS) Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in each ch-2 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Yarn B (A: F: E: H: C) in any ch-2 sp.
Round 3 (RS) Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, *3tr in sp between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [36 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Join Yarn A (I: B: H: F: D) in any ch-2 sp.
Round 4 (RS) Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, *3tr in next 2 sps between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [48 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.

HEART SQUARES (MAKE 4)

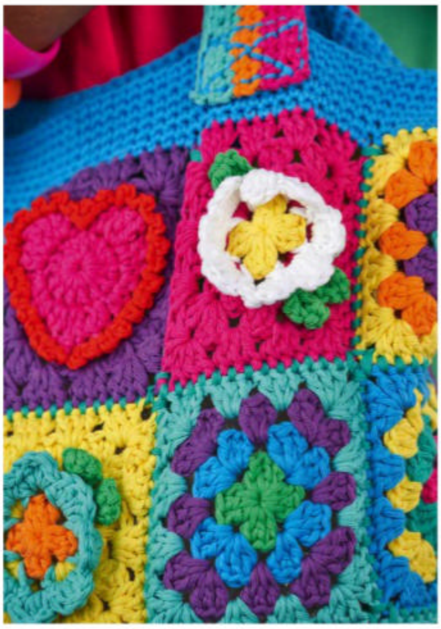
Using Yarn E throughout, work as Basic Granny Square.

HEART

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3, 13tr in loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [14 sts]
Round 2 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, 2dtr in next st, 2tr in next st, 2htr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, 2dtr in next 2 sts, pm in between 2nd and 3rd dtr to mark base of Heart, 2tr in next st, 2htr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, 2dtr in next st, tr in next st, ch3, ss in st at base of last tr. [28 sts]
Fasten off.
For the next round, make 2 using Yarn C and 2 using Yarn H.
Join yarn in first st after marker.
Round 3 Ch2 (counts as dc, ch1), (dc, in next st, ch1) 13 times, dc in sp at top of Heart, ch1, (dc, in next st, ch1) rep to end, ss to first ch of beg ch-2.
Fasten off.
Sew to the RS of the Square.

FLOWER SQUARES (MAKE 8)

Flowers are worked in 2 colourways. Make 4 in each colourway.
Work as the Basic Granny square using Yarn B (A) for Round 1, and Yarn A (D) for Rounds 2-4.


The flower is worked straight onto the square, while the other motifs are worked separately

FLOWER

The Flower is worked directly onto the Granny Square.
Join Yarn H (J) into any ch-2 sp from Round 1, before the base of the sts from Round 2.
Round 1 (RS) *Ch3, ss in same sp after the base of sts from Round 2, ch3, ss in next ch-2 sp before the base of the sts from Round 2; rep from * 3 times more working final ss in base of beg ch-3. [8 ch-sps]
Round 2 Ss to beg ch-3 sp, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), (dc, 3tr, dc) in each ch-sp around, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off.

LEAVES (MAKE 24)

Using Yarn F, ch6.
Round 1 (RS) Ss in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, ss in last ch.
Fasten off.
Sew 3 Leaves to each Flower Square, behind the petals.

TOADSTOOL SQUARE (MAKE 4)

Work as the Basic Granny Square using Yarn F for Rounds 1-3, and Yarn I for Round 4.

TOADSTOOL

Using Yarn C, ch9.
Row 1 (WS) Tr in fourth ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [7 sts]
Row 2 (RS) Skip first 3 sts, 8tr in next st, skip next 2 sts, ss in final st.
Fasten off.
Using Yarn I, embroider spots on the Toadstool.

STEM

Using Yarn J, ch5.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and next 2 ch, 3htr in final ch, turn to work down opposite edge of foundation ch, dc in next 3 ch.
Fasten off.
Using the image as a guide, sew the Stem and Toadstool to the Square.

TO MAKE UP

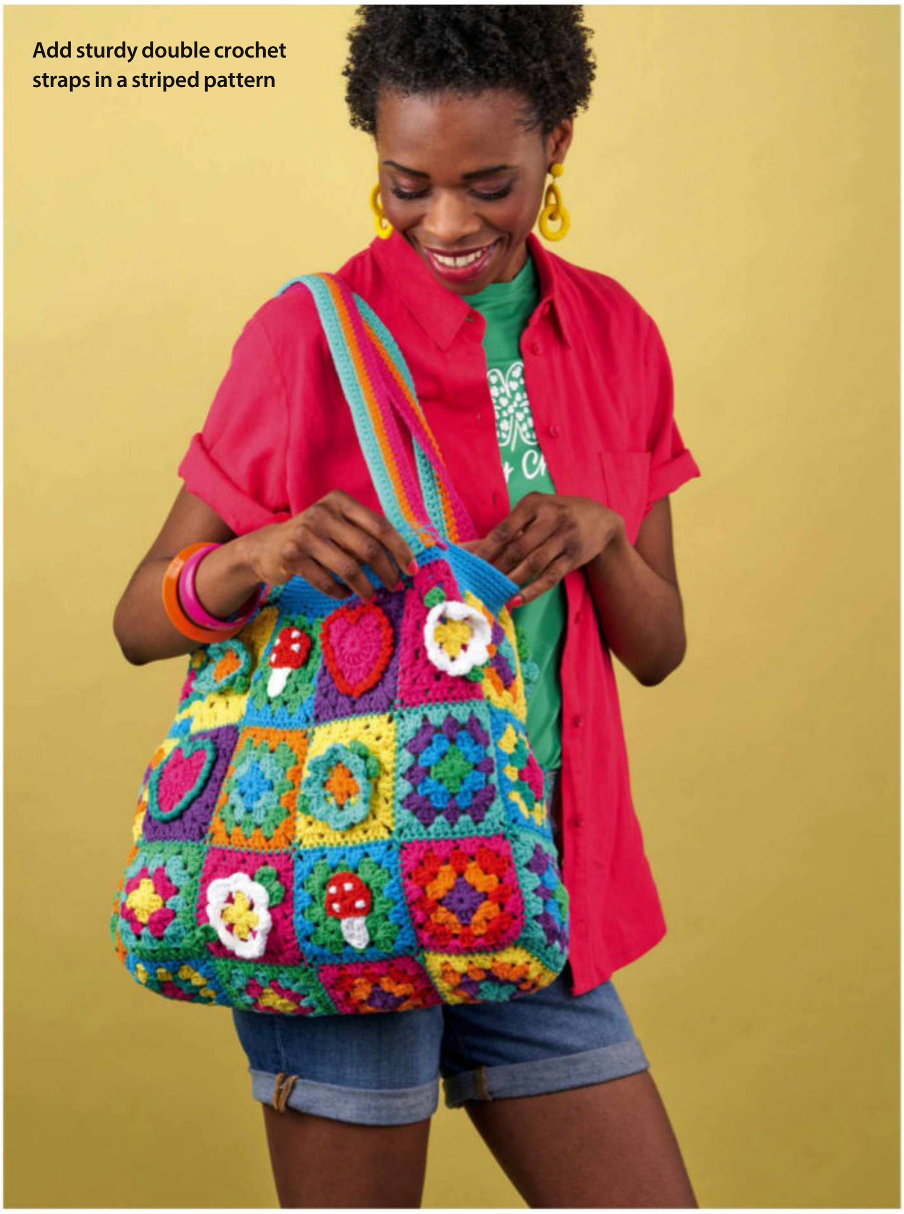
All Squares are joined together using a double crochet seam with WS facing. Use Yarn F for all joining.
Join 3 Basic Granny Squares into a strip to make a side panel. Rep to make a second side panel.
Join 4 Basic Granny Squares into a strip to make the base.
Join any 12 Squares into a 4x3 panel to make the Front. Rep with the rem Squares to make the Back.
Join all the panels together to form the Bag.

UPPER EDGING

Join Yarn I in any st around top of Bag.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st and ch-sp around, ss to beg dc. [140 sts]
Rounds 2-7 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off.

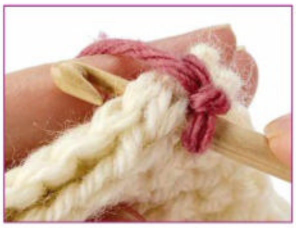
STRAPS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn D, ch100.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [99 sts]
Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Rows 3-9 As Row 2, changing to Yarn B at the end of Row 3 and to Yarn H at the end of Row 6.
Fasten off and weave in all ends.
Using the image as a guide, sew the Straps to the top of the Bag.

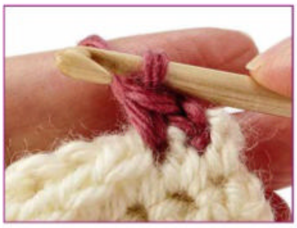


Add sturdy double crochet straps in a striped pattern

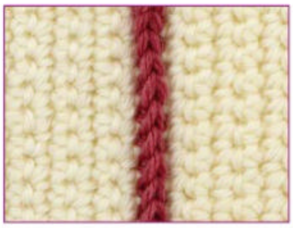
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A DOUBLE CROCHET SEAM



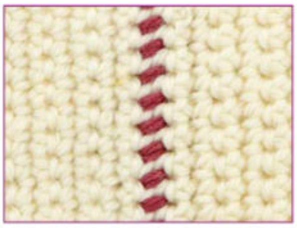
1 First, make sure you fasten off, weave in ends and block pieces. Place pieces WS together. With a slip knot on the hook, insert it into the far right stitch on both pieces, work a slip st.



2 Make 1ch (the t-ch for dc). Insert hook into the second stitch of both layers and work a dc stitch. Work more dc stitches in this way along the edge, as far as you need to.



3 Fasten off, weave in ends, open out the seam and lightly press from the WS. This makes a raised seam for a decorative effect on the RS (see above), using any colour of yarn.



4 In step 1, if you place the pieces with RS together and work the seam, you'll create a more subtle effect on the RS (see above), with the raised seam on the WS.

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Iron modifyer used

Brentfox Yarns

Meet an indie dyer and indulge in a design with their skeins

Dyeing yarn is a recent addition to Sally Scanlon's creative roster. The Gloucestershire-based printmaker and textile artist creates designs inspired by nature and the countryside, and is fond of using techniques like collagraph printmaking.

Sally first began dyeing yarn three years ago. "I'd been eco-dyeing on silk for some time and loved the soft colours I achieved from locally foraged plants," she says. "A friend gave me some Cotswold fleeces, which I sent away to be spun, together with some Jacob wool that was also farmed in Gloucestershire. I decided to set up Brentfox Yarns when I had enough to take to a festival."

A LOVE OF NATURE

Nature and its beauty is central to all of Sally's art, including her yarn dyeing. Growing up on the edge of Dartmoor has given her a lifelong love of the countryside and an emotional connection to the land. She brings all this to her art.

Sally is also keen to promote the yarn from British native breed sheep. "I dye a variety of yarns, some of which are imported, but British native breed wools are special," she says. "The Cotswold is my favourite yarn because of its texture and sheen – it takes up the colour beautifully. It's fantastic for lace."

A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH

Sally turns to the wonders of nature to achieve her yarn colours. "I mostly use plants that I collect where I keep my pony," she says. "I always ask permission of the land owner and I don't collect all the plant material from the same plant." On her website, Sally says, "My father taught me from a very early age the importance of treating the landscape and the things within it with respect, so I'm very careful what I select."

The joy of using plants to dye means there are sometimes some unexpected results. For instance, "when I used eucalyptus it gave me a surprising pinky orange!"

SOFT AND SUBTLE

"The colours of my yarns are soft and subtle and work really well together," says Sally. The final colours of her yarns also inspire Sally's own crafty projects. "I've designed a knitted shawl for my Cotswold yarn which will be available shortly, as well as a handwarmer pattern for the Jacob."

Next, she aims to expand her range of native rare breed wool. "I'd like to explore the possibility of purchasing some more raw fleece to send away for spinning. I have some Gloucestershire alpaca waiting to go!"

www.brentfox.co.uk
Instagram: @brentfoxdesigns @brentfoxyarns

Brentfox Yarns Gloucestershire Cotswolds 4ply

Lace and grace

A combination of dandelions, madder and iron created this beautiful shade of peach for Lisa Hendry's bunting

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

4PLY WEIGHT

2MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Brentfox Yarns Gloucestershire Cotswold 4ply (100% Cotswold wool, 104g/366m) 1 skein dyed with Dandelion, Madder and Iron
- A 2mm (US B/1) hook
- Dr Bechman Starch & Easy Iron spray

For yarn stockists contact www.brentfox.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Each Triangle measures 12x13cm (4¾x5in)
Bunting strand measures 175cm (69in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86

Whether you make this bunting for a special occassion or to jazz up your everyday décor, you'll find lots to love in this lacy pattern.

NOTES

Each Triangle is constructed in rounds with RS facing throughout.
The Triangles are blocked with starch spray before being joined together.

BUNTING

TRIANGLES (MAKE 7)

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 9tr into loop, ss to beg st. [10 sts]

Round 2 Ch3 (tr, dtr, 2tr) in st at base of ch-3, dc in next st, *(2tr, dtr, 2tr) in next st, dc in next st; rep from * 3 times more, ss to beg st. [30 sts]

Round 3 Ss to first dtr, ch1, *dc in dtr, ch4, skip 2 sts, htr in next dc, ch4, skip 2 sts; rep from * 4 times more, ss to beg dc. [10 sts, 10 ch-4 sps]

Round 4 Ss into ch-4 sp, ch3, 3tr in same sp, 4tr in each ch-4 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [40 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, *dc in first 2 sts, htr in first 2 sts, tr in next 2 sts, (2dtr, ch2, 2dtr) in next st, tr in next 2 sts, htr in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * twice more, dc in final st, ss to beg dc. [48 sts, 3 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

Rejoin yarn in first ch-2 sp.

Round 6 *Skip 1 st, **5tr in next st, skip 1 sts, dc in next st, skip next st; rep from ** across to next ch-2 sp; rep from * to next ch-2 sp, dc in ch-sp, dc in each st across, dc in final ch-sp, ss to beg tr.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

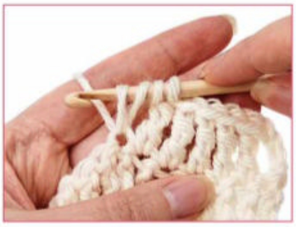
Pin out the Triangles and spray with starch to set the shape.
Once dry, the Bunting can be assembled.

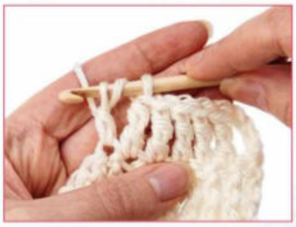
To ensure the triangles lay flat, spray them with starch before joining them into bunting

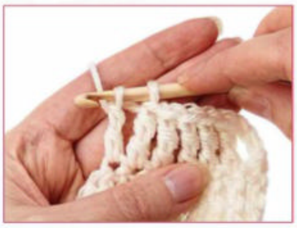
Ch50, *dc in each st across straight edge on any Triangle, ch10; rep from * until all Triangles have been joined, ch40.

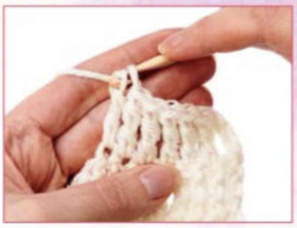
Fasten off and weave in ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A DOUBLE TREBLE


1 Yrh twice and insert the hook under the top 2 loops of the stitch indicated. Yrh and draw through the stitch only (4 loops on hook).


2 Yrh and pull the yarn through the first 2 loops only (3 loops on hook).


3 Yrh and pull the yarn through the first 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).


4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. There's your double treble made and you'll have 1 loop left on your hook ready to do the next stitch.

YARN Reviews

B is for... BLANKETS

Cosy, soft and colourful… these yarns are perfect for blankets and throws to wrap up in on cooler evenings

Join our alphabet CAL!

'B' PATTERN

Ch6.

ROUND 1 (RS) **Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [5 dc]**

ROUND 2 **Ch4, skip first 2 dc, ss in next dc, ch4, skip next dc, ss in last dc, turn. [2 ch-4 sps]**

ROUND 3 **Ch1, 6dc in first ch-sp, dc2tog first and second ch-sps, 6dc in second ch-sp, ch1, ss to top of last dc from Row 1.**

FASTEN OFF **and weave in ends.**

The leftover yarns from this yarn review will be donated to Knit for Peace.Learn more at www.knitforpeace.org.uk and go to www.gathered.how for more yarn donation ideas.

CARON

SIMPLY SOFT

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 100% acrylic
BALL 170g/288m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £4.99

CARON
SIMPLY SOFT

01

If you're all about the feels, this yarn is for you – it really is super soft and great for blankets that will sit next to delicate skin. Each length is comprised of four silky plies twisted into one light strand that glides happily over your hook, and you can unwind it from the outside or the centre pull. Each stitch has strong definition and shine. You're also spoiled for choice with 52 colours, which is ideal for making granny squares before joining them into a blanket to treasure. Gentle machine wash at 40°C and tumble dry on low. www.creativecraftingworld.co.uk

EMU

FUNFAIR SWIRL DK

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% premium acrylic
BALL 150g/450m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £4.99

Emu
FUNFAIR
Swirl DK

02

This eye-popping cake of yarn shows off mermerising colour effects while you just relax and enjoy some easy hooking! The fuzzy strands give soft stitch definition and the gradual colour changes create a fascinating look. There are nine colourways with themed names like Waltzer, Carousel and Roller Coaster, and you'll want to try them all. Up close, each stripe has flecks of the other colours, too. The supersized balls have a high metreage, so one is ideal for a c2c baby blanket. Machine wash your makes at 30°C. www.emuyarns.co.uk

YARNSMITHS

CREATE

WEIGHT Super chunky
CONTENT 100% acrylic
BALL 100g/80m
HOOK 10mm
RRP £2.19

YARNSMITHS
Create
SUPER CHUNKY

03

This deliciously thick yarn just begs to be squeezed! It works up into a cosy fabric that's perfect for a quick-to-make blanket. The fuzzy lengths have a comforting matt texture that feels like wool roving. It's made up of two super-soft plies twisted loosely together, which create an interesting texture. It's a dream to hook with and stitches have strong definition. There are 20 colours covering the whole rainbow, plus neutrals, and you can pop it in the machine on a 30°C gentle wash and cool tumble dry. www.yarnsmiths.co.uk

STYLECRAFT

BELLISSSIMA

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 100% premium acrylic
BALL 100g/145m
HOOK 6mm
RRP £2.99

BELLISSIMA
CHUNKY

04

A gorgeously plump and squishable yarn, this is one to snuggle up with. It feels light and soft in your hands, with a subtle sheen and a lovely drape. The five tightly twisted plies means there's no danger of splitting and the fabric has good stitch definition, perfect for a chunky cable-pattern blanket. There are 11 modern colours, including three new shades – this is actually a thicker version of the popular Bellissima DK with many of the same colours. Machine wash on a gentle 30°C and gentle tumble dry. www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

CYGNET

BABY COLOUR SOFT DK

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% superior acrylic
BALL 100g/360m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £3.79

Baby Colour Soft DK

05

Kids big or small will love this colourful yarn! It's a soft, self-striping DK, with each tone merging gradually into the next. Each stripe has subtle colour variations that add depth to the matt fabric. It's easy to hook with, formed of three fuzzy plies twisted together, and will create a cosy yet hardwearing blanket. There are six colourways with various effects and sweet names like Sugar Fairy and Twizzle Top (great for colourful granny squares!). And don't worry about spills – just pop it in the machine and wash it at 40°C. www.cygnetyarns.com

KING COLE

PRIZE

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% premium polyester
BALL 100g/300m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £1.99

PRIZE
DOUBLE KNITTING

06

As a brand-new yarn with a soft feel, 32 shades and a low price point, this is a great all-rounder for any blanket project. It's at the thin end of the DK spectrum and has a fuzzy finish, yet it's also sturdy and strong – perfect for makes that get a lot of use. The three plies are loosely twisted, and the resulting fabric has strong stitch definition, subtle sheen and baby-soft feel. Polyester is more breathable than acrylic, so try making a stripy blanket for cool summer nights in the garden! The yarn is machine washable at 30°C. www.kingcole.com

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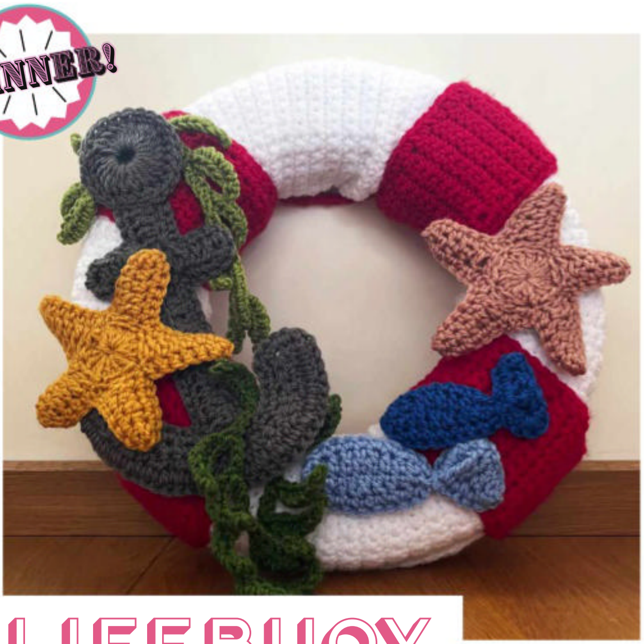
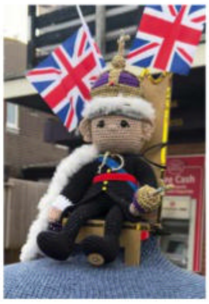


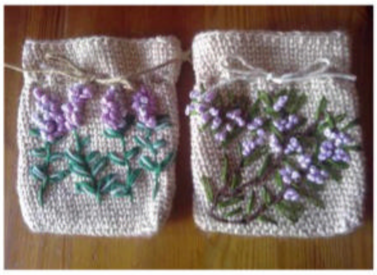
LIFEBUOY, AHOY!

Tina McPhee hooked up this coastal wreath from issue 124 as a unique gift for her sister. The pair love the seaside and this was the perfect way to bring it into the home. Now that this amazing decoration is on display, we wonder whether Tina will make anything else in the collection!

ROYAL MAIL

Amanda McMath made a very regal project to help decorate her town for the coronation. After hooking up the amigurumi King Charles III from issue 135, Amanda put him on top of a post box for everyone to enjoy. Wearing his very own regal crown and robe, this little king was a joy for everyone to see... and, we have to say, he looks very smart! Well done, Amanda.





FORAGING FUN

Style meets practicality with this gorgeous herb pouch duo from issue 134. Anne Novis made these cute cottagecore-inspired projects to gift to her friends and family. She's now hoping to make another pouch with roses on. We think Anne should make a few more for herself to display proudly in her kitchen, too!

DOUBLE TAP ♥

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes. Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #SCtreblemaker

HOPPY DAYS

Amanda Taylor, aka @mycraftand crochetcorner, hooked up our amigurumi bunny from issue 54. This project is an oldie but a goldie!

BABY BOBBLE

A raised popcorn stitch a day keeps the boredom away! Laura Tindell, aka @healthy.living. laura, loved making this baby blanket from issue 130.

DIAMOND BRIGHT

Silke Moynihan, aka @sikari73, made this patterned cardigan from issue 130 to wear throughout the seasons. It's a great colour choice and an even better finish.

CUTE COMPLETE CAL

We hooksters know the feeling of finishing a CAL. Antonia Mochen, aka @antoniamochen_ completed last year's Magic carpet CAL. Super neat and cute!

THE LOWDOWN

It's simple to be in with a chance of winning a great hooky prize in a future issue! Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email by 7 July. For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit www.gathered.how/simplycrochetcomps

WIN

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QUEEN TEA

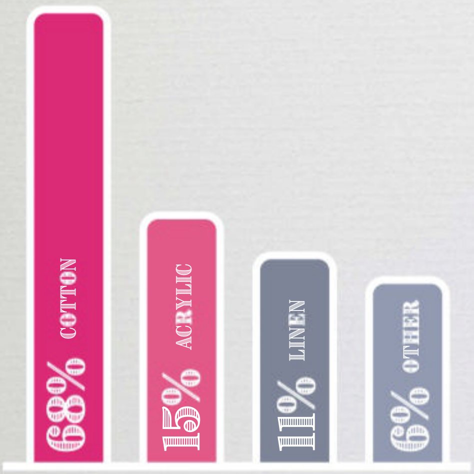
Helen Campbell is fairly new to crochet and has been having fun experimenting with new stitches. This gorgeous make from issue 106 was a great way for her to get started on doing trickier projects. Helen found the beehive texture to be satisfying and fun. This is a cosy to last through many teatimes, and it looks sweet as honey. We hope it gave her lots of confidence, too!

THE RAINBOW ROAD

Hookster Jan Greet is sure to stand out in this colourful make from issue 135. She adapted the pattern and swapped out the yarn for some even more colourful choices. Perfect for motif-lovers, this zigzag jumper will certainly earn its wearer a lot of compliments.

This month we asked you...

What's your favourite fibre for summer crochet?



Simply Crochet SCTREBLEMAKERS

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If you're looking to socialise with like-minded crocheters, then make sure you join our SCtreblemakers Facebook group – *the* place to share pictures of your makes, get pattern recommendations and advice, and generally talk about how much you love *Simply Crochet* magazine. With over 6.4k members, it's a bustling crochet forum full of friendly fellow hooksters. We look forward to chatting with you on there!

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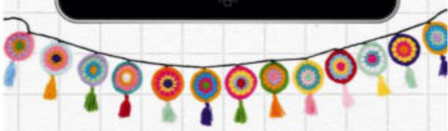

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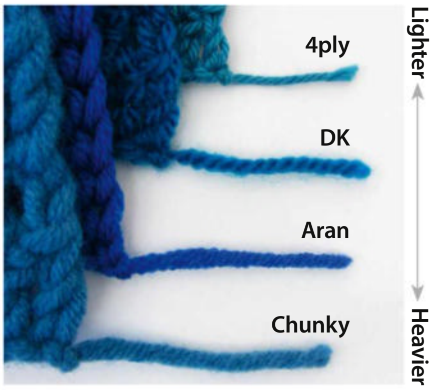
CROCHET
Unravelled
With
Becky Skuse

WHAT DOES YARN ‘WEIGHT’ MEAN?



Brush up on your technique with our simple guide…

Yarn weight has nothing to do with how much your ball weighs – it’s all about the thickness of the yarn strand. A thinner yarn is described as ‘finer’ or ‘lighter’ weight, while thicker yarns are referred to as ‘bulkier’ or ‘heavier’ weight.

Modern yarns can be labelled with all sorts of thickness names and each size feels different when hooked into fabric, so each size creates different effects for your projects. The names also have interesting histories – you can read these online.

None of this matters much if you use the exact recommended yarn. But if that’s not possible, or you want a different colour or effect, or the pattern quotes a yarn weight you’ve never heard of, then yarn thickness becomes important. In this workshop, I’ll explain all about yarn thicknesses and more.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT YARN WEIGHTS?

Here’s our handy guide…

See below for our guide to converting different yarn weights – you can use it when you’re buying yarn or following a pattern. Our UK readers may find it particularly useful when using patterns using US terms. Our guide is compiled through extensive research of various sources. However, if you’re ever in any doubt, make a test swatch of the yarn and compare it to your pattern’s quoted tension.

UK Yarn weight	US yarn names and other alternative names	US Craft Yarn Council	Approx hook size	Approx WPI
Laceweight	Cobweb, Thread, Fingering 10-count, 1ply, #10 crochet thread	Size 0 Lace	1.5-2.25mm	30 WPI or high
	Lace, 2ply, #8 crochet thread		2-3mm	
	Light fingering, 3ply, Sock, Baby, #5 crochet thread		2.25-3.25mm	
4ply	Fingering, 4ply, Sock, Baby, #3 crochet thread	Size 1 Superfine	2.5-4mm	18-30 WPI
	Sport, 5ply, Baby	Size 2 Fine		13-18 WPI
DK Double Knitting	DK, Light worsted, 8ply	Size 3 Light	3.5-4.5mm	11-14 WPI
Aran	Worsted, 10ply	Size 4 Medium	4-5.5mm	8-12 WPI
	Aran, Afghan, Fisherman, Heavy worsted, 10-12ply			
Chunky	Bulky, Chunky, Craft, Rug, 12-16ply	Size 5 Bulky	5.5-8mm	6-8 WPI
Super Chunky	Extra bulky, Super bulky, Roving, 14-16ply	Size 6 Super bulky	7-12mm	5-6 WPI
Big	Jumbo, Roving, Ultra, Mega chunky	Size 7 Jumbo	12mm plus	1-4 WPI

Find out more about Becky at makemedo.wordpress.com

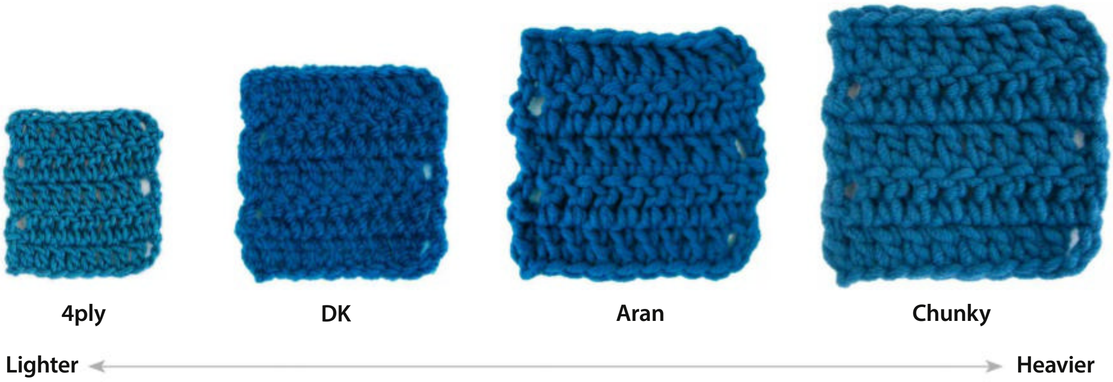
HOW DO YARN WEIGHTS VARY?

Get ready for the lowdown…

In the early days of yarn in the UK, wool was spun with uniform thickness into what was usually called 1ply – 2 of these strands combined was called 2ply, 4 were called 4ply, and so on. Patterns were easy to replicate using a specific number of plies.

As times changed, so did yarn. Rationing, new manufacturers and new fibres all affected the way yarn was made and there was an explosion in variety that continues today – which is exciting for our making! All these different yarn thicknesses are grouped together into categories – the four most popular types in the UK are shown below. The US developed a different system, standardised by the Craft Yarn Council (see the table opposite for a comparison).

Each group includes a lot of variation – for example, one DK yarn might be quite thin compared with another DK yarn that's a bit thicker, and this can make a big difference. So you need to be careful when mixing different yarns of the same weight in the same project – they might hook up differently and pucker your fabric. You also need to be careful when substituting yarns, especially on a large project or where tension is important, such as a garment. If you use a slightly thinner or thicker yarn, the resulting item might end up smaller or larger than you intended. Try to treat yarn weight as a guide to choosing your yarn and always make a swatch to test the tension, if it matters.

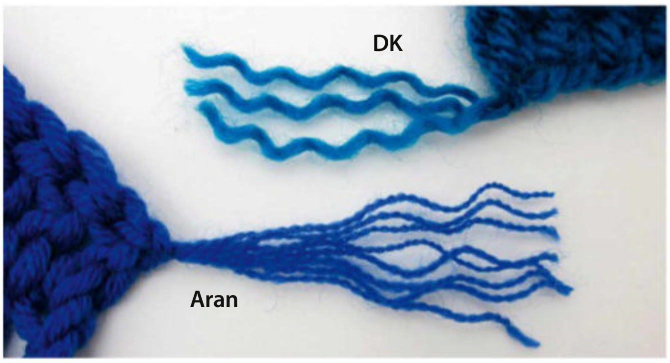


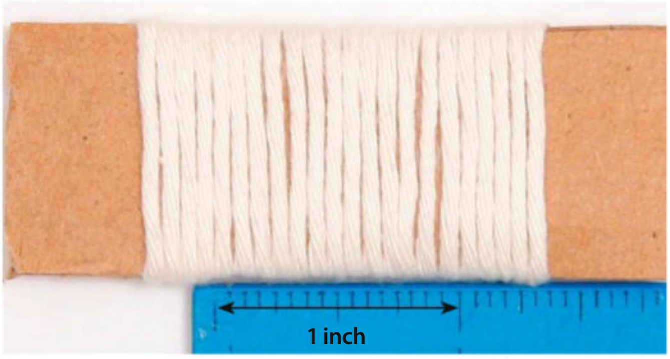
WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Here are some top tips to yarn weight…

Tip 1 Unravel any yarn and it's usually made up of strands twisted together – each length is 1 'ply' of the yarn. Don't rely on counting plies to tell you a yarn's weight – for example, the DK below has 3 plies while the aran has 8 plies and each of these has 2 plies!

Tip 2 Some crocheters use 'wraps per inch' (WPI) to check a yarn's thickness. To do this, take a straight object (such as a ruler) and wrap the yarn around it – each wrap should sit right next to another, but not overlapping or too bunched up. Count the number of wraps over 1in to give you the yarn's WPI. In the the DK example below there are 13 wraps over an inch, so this yarn is 13 WPI. Beware that this method is not an exact science – measurements can vary depending on how close the wraps sit. Again, use WPI as a guide only.





Let Becky solve your hooky conundrums!

Crochet Unravelled aims to deep dive into the techniques, tutorials and terminology that will make you a better hookster. Have you got a question you want Becky to unravel? Send it in to us at simplycrochet@ourmedia.co.uk

NEXT ISSUE

Don't miss the next workshop… I'll explain all about how much yarn to buy for a project

NEXT ISSUE

- RETRO HOME COLLECTION
- GRANNY TRIANGLE CARDIGAN
- AMI' FEMALE FOOTBALLER
- FLOWER GARDEN BLANKET
- UPYCLED DENIM SKIRT
- HOPSCOTCH RUG
- SOFT SUMMER SCARF
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SCAN ME

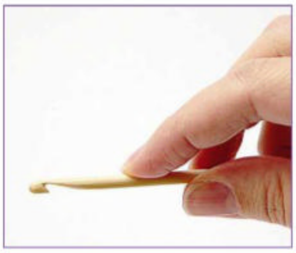
Learn more online!

Crochet essentials

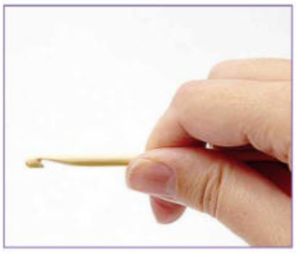
Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook

HOLDING THE HOOK

Try these methods and see which works best



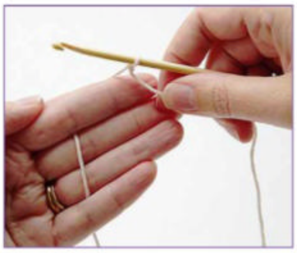
PENCIL METHOD
Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.



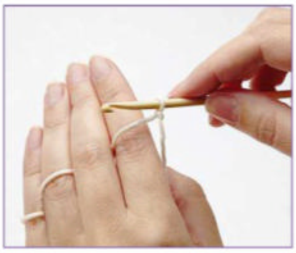
KNIFE METHOD
Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

HOLDING THE YARN

Even tension results in even stitches

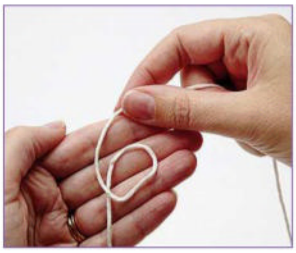


METHOD ONE
Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third fingers of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.

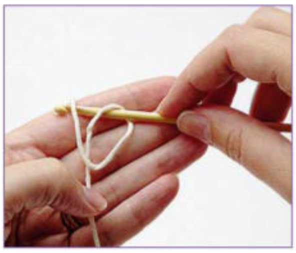


METHOD TWO
Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

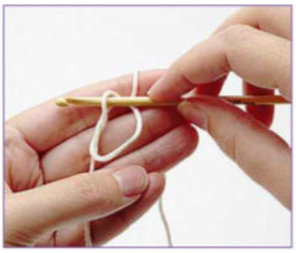
MAKING A SLIPKNOT The first loop on the hook



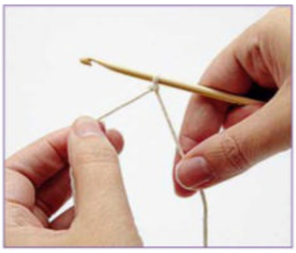
1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a loose, circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.

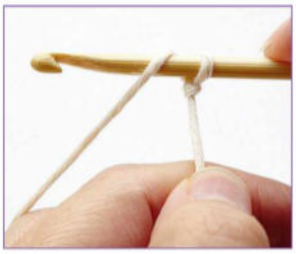


3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.

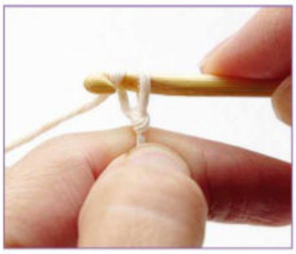


4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

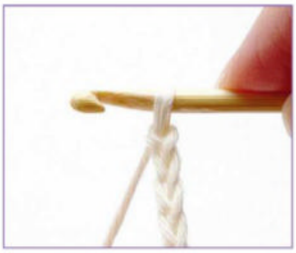
CHAIN STITCH Use this stitch to make your foundation chain



1 Hold the hook in your right hand, and both the yarn end and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anticlockwise.

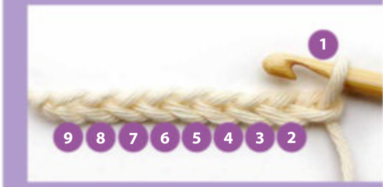


2 Pull the hook towards the slipknot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slipknot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain length.



3 This is what your row of chains will look like. Hold the chain with your left hand near the hook, to keep the tension. Keep going until you have the number of chains that's stated in your pattern.

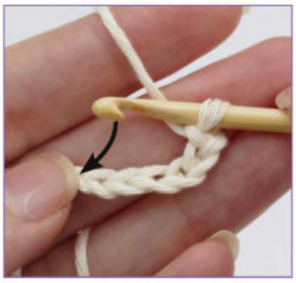
How to count chains



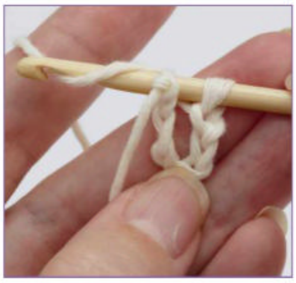
Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

SLIP STITCH (ss)

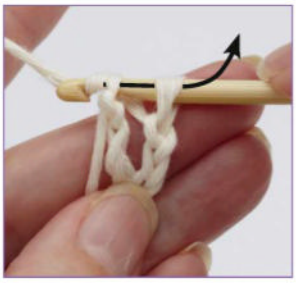
This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds



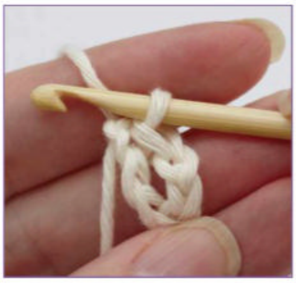
1 You can make a slip stitch in any chain or stitch, to join it to the working loop on the hook. To make a slip stitch, simply insert the hook into the stitch indicated, from front to back.



2 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook, so the yarn wraps anticlockwise around it (yarn round hook, or yrh).



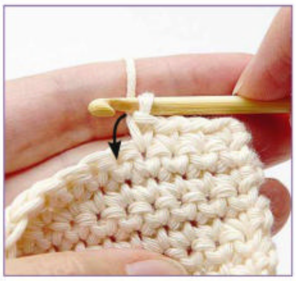
3 Gently pull the hook, and the yarn wrapped around it, back towards the 2 loops on the hook. Draw the yarn through both the loops on the hook.



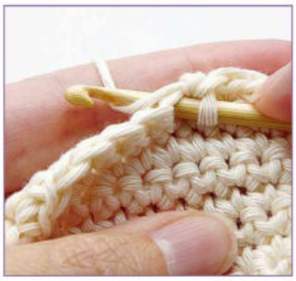
4 This will finish the stitch and you'll see how the slip stitch has joined the working loop to the chain or stitch you inserted the hook into. You can also use slip stitch to form a neat edging.

DOUBLE CROCHET (dc) US term: single crochet

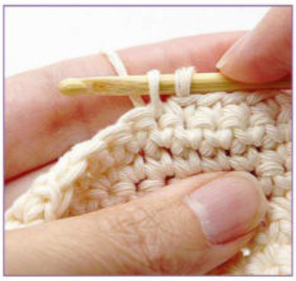
One of the key stitches in crochet, doubles are simple, compact stitches that form a dense fabric



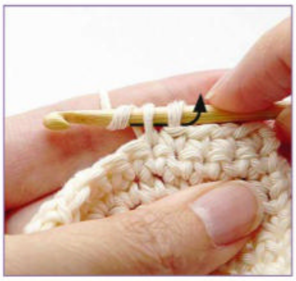
1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top 2 loops of the next stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



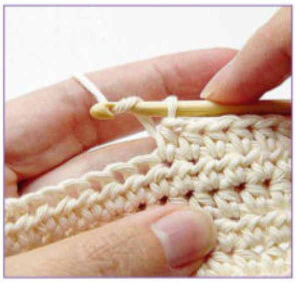
3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you 2 loops on your crochet hook.



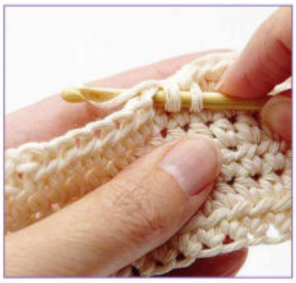
4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

HALF TREBLE CROCHET (htr) US term: half double crochet

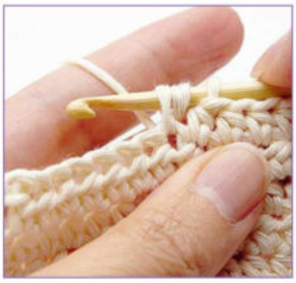
A handy stitch that's between double and treble crochet in size, and it looks slightly looser than double crochet



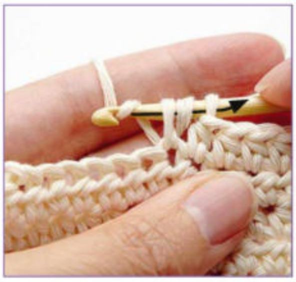
1 To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wind the yarn round the hook (yrh).



2 Insert the hook under the top 2 loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



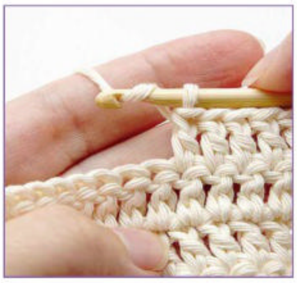
3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



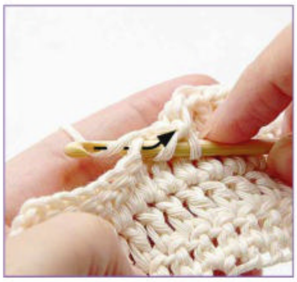
4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

TREBLE CROCHET (tr) US term: double crochet

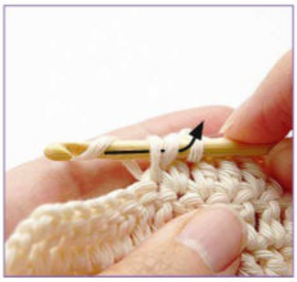
One of the most popular stitches in crochet, this simple stitch is twice as high as a double crochet stitch



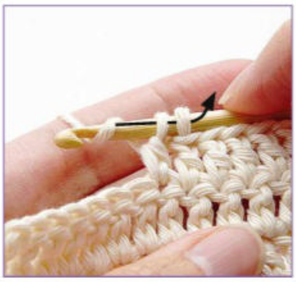
1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top 2 loops of the stitch on the previous row.



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



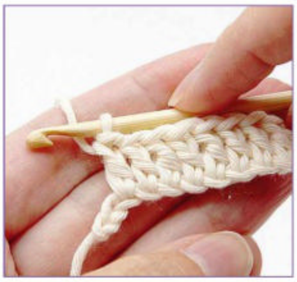
3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



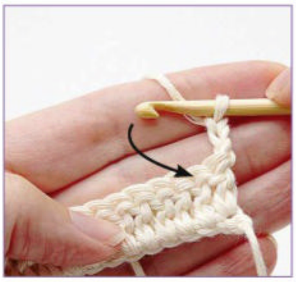
4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

WORKING IN ROWS

Follow these simple rules to construct crochet fabric



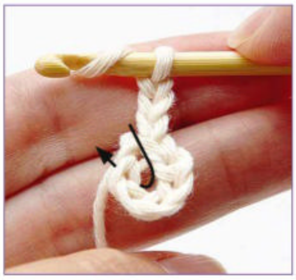
1 The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



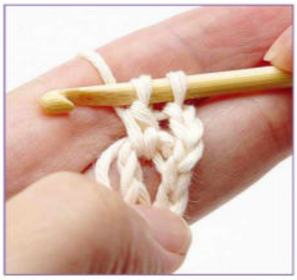
2 For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work (see opposite). Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

To make circles, tubes and other shapes



1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble, as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

DOUBLE TREBLE CROCHET (dtr)

US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.

2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).

3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook). Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).

4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.

5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top 2 loops of the second stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TRIPLE TREBLE CROCHET (ttr)

US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.

2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).

3 † Yrh, draw loop through 2 loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.

4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the second st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row
approx	approximate(ly)
beg	beginning
bl	insert hook under back loop only
BP	Back Post: work st indicated, inserting hook around post of st from back to front to back and not in top of st
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3
cl(s)	clusters
cont	continue
dc	double crochet
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh & draw a loop through) twice, yrh & draw through all 3 loops on hook
dec	decrease
dtr	double treble crochet
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together
fdc	foundation dc
ftr	foundation tr
fl	insert hook under front loop only
foll/folls	following/follows
FP	Front Post: As BP, inserting hook around post from front to back to front
htr	half treble
htr2tog	work 2htr together
in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
inc	increase
LH	left hand
lp(s)	loop(s)
meas	measures
patt(s)	pattern(s)
pm	place marker
prev	previous
qtr	quadruple treble
rem	remain(s)/remaining
rep	repeat
RH	right hand
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS	right side
sk	skip
sp(s)	space(s)
ss	slip stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)
t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
tog	together
tr	treble crochet
tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/ st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) number of times indicated, yrh & draw through all loops on hook
tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh a& draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh & draw through all loops on hook
ttr	triple treble crochet
WS	wrong side
yrh	yarn round hook
*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as many more times as directed
()	work all instructions in the brackets as many times as directed

Crochet hook conversions

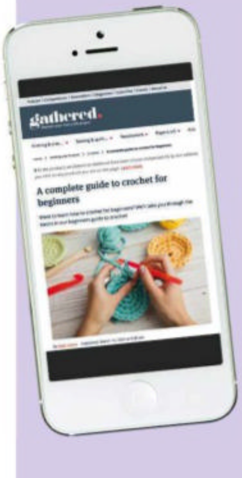
UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	–
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	–
–	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	–
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
–	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	–
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

Which hook do I use?

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

UK/US conversions

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr



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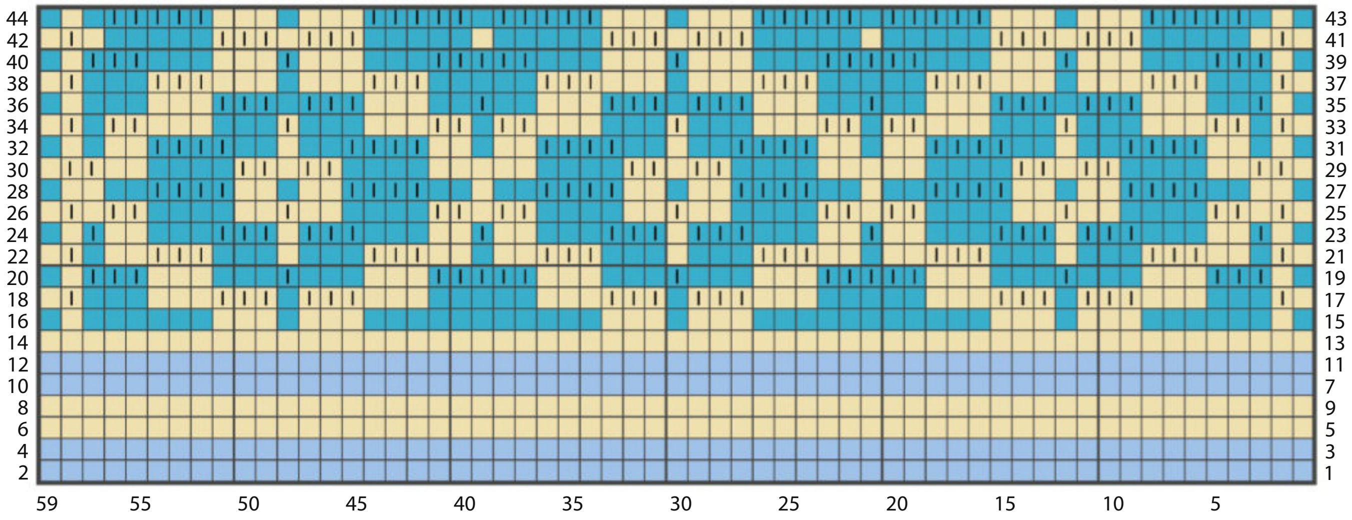
Scan here to go directly to our page on www.gathered.how

Find out everything you need to know about crochet on Gathered! Our page is filled with step-by-step videos, useful how-tos and information on the tools you'll need. Learn techniques such as how to create a turning chain, change colour, increase and decrease, sew seams, check your tension, make a magic loop, join your rounds and much more. And while you're there, have a look at our free crochet patterns – you may just find your next make!

CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Use these charts when creating the beach holiday blanket, zigzag striped vest and lacy shawl.

Beach holiday blanket, page 20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Key

🟦 Yarn A

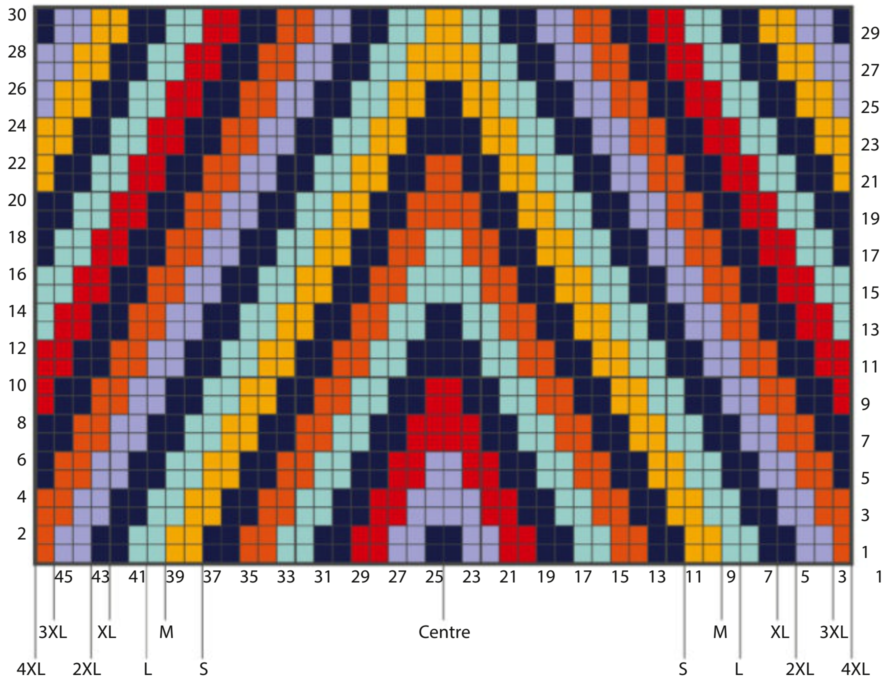
🟨 Yarn B

🟦 Yarn C

| mtr

☐ dc

Zigzag striped vest, page 26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Key

⬛ French Navy

🟪 Lavender

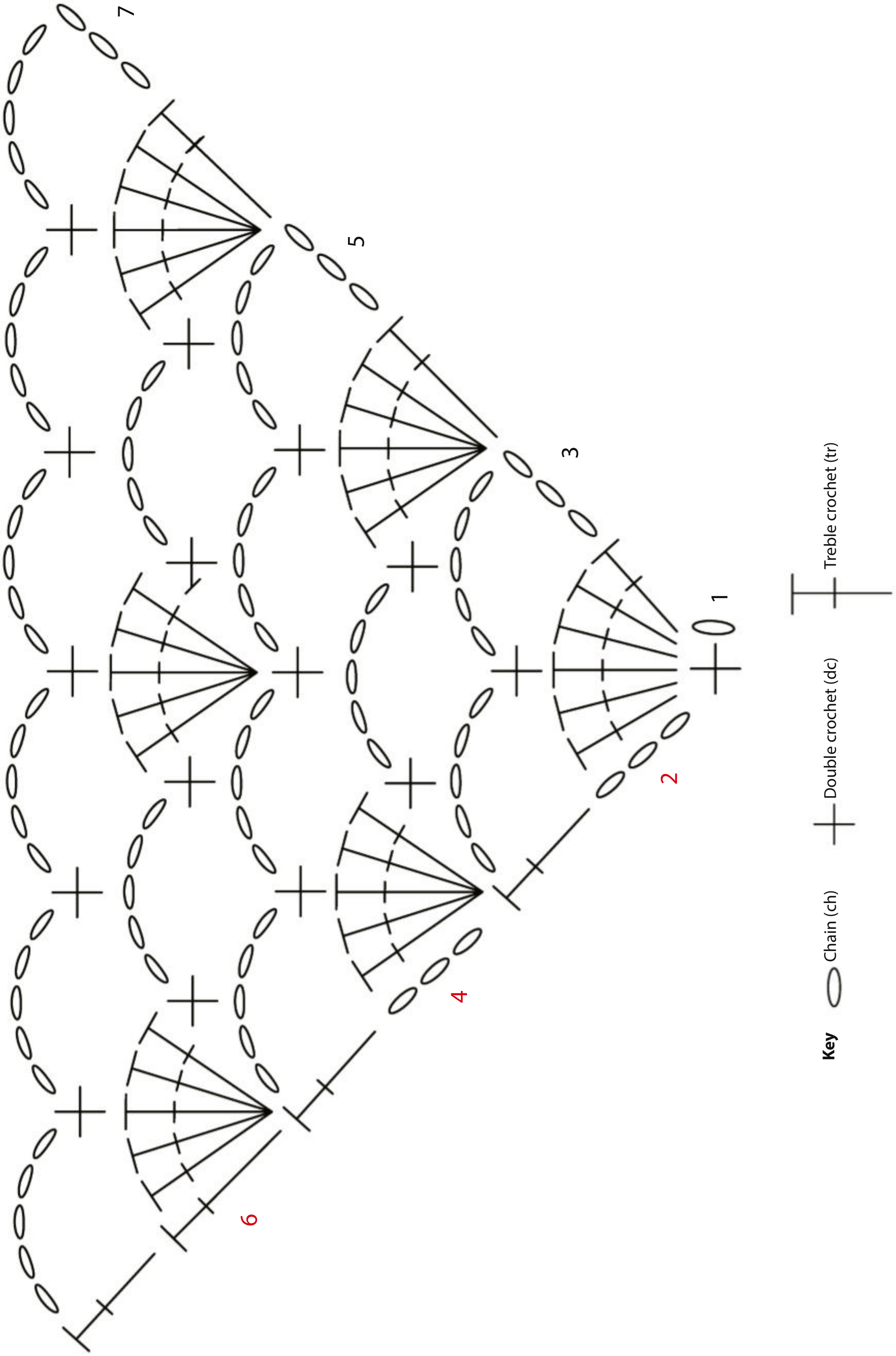
🟩 Aspen

🟧 Spice

🟨 Sunshine

🟥 Matador

Lacy shawl, page 54


7
5
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Key
Chain (ch)
Double crochet (dc)
Treble crochet (tr)

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By
The
Sea
Crochet

Summer love

Six reasons to follow Jodie of By the Sea Crochet and her pastel world of pretty blankets, jumpers and more

Instagram: @by_the_sea_crochet
Followers: 59.3K

IF YOU WANNA... learn how to select beautiful colour combinations, follow Jodie for inspiration. She loves sharing her choices. #findyourcolourpalette

IF YOU LIKE... colourful blankets or cosy, comfy cardigans and jumpers in a variety of styles, you need Jodie's work on your feed. #addsomebeautytoyourlife

IF YOU LOVE... everything about crochet, you're just like Jodie! "I find it very relaxing," she says. "I love wearing the jumpers." #crochetforthefunofit

IF YOU ARE... a fan of designing and making granny square cardigans, you and Jodie have something in common. #grannysquaresforever #motifmadness

IF YOU NEED... more time by the seaside, you can live vicariously through Jodie. "I get lots of inspiration from living by the sea," she says. #oceanview

IF YOU HAVE... a lot of crochet projects on the go at once and like to crochet every day, follow Jodie. "I'm always keen to learn," she says. #practicemakesperfect

IT'S ALL OVER...

Trending this month on Instagram
♥ **CROCHET RIBBON BAGS** ♥

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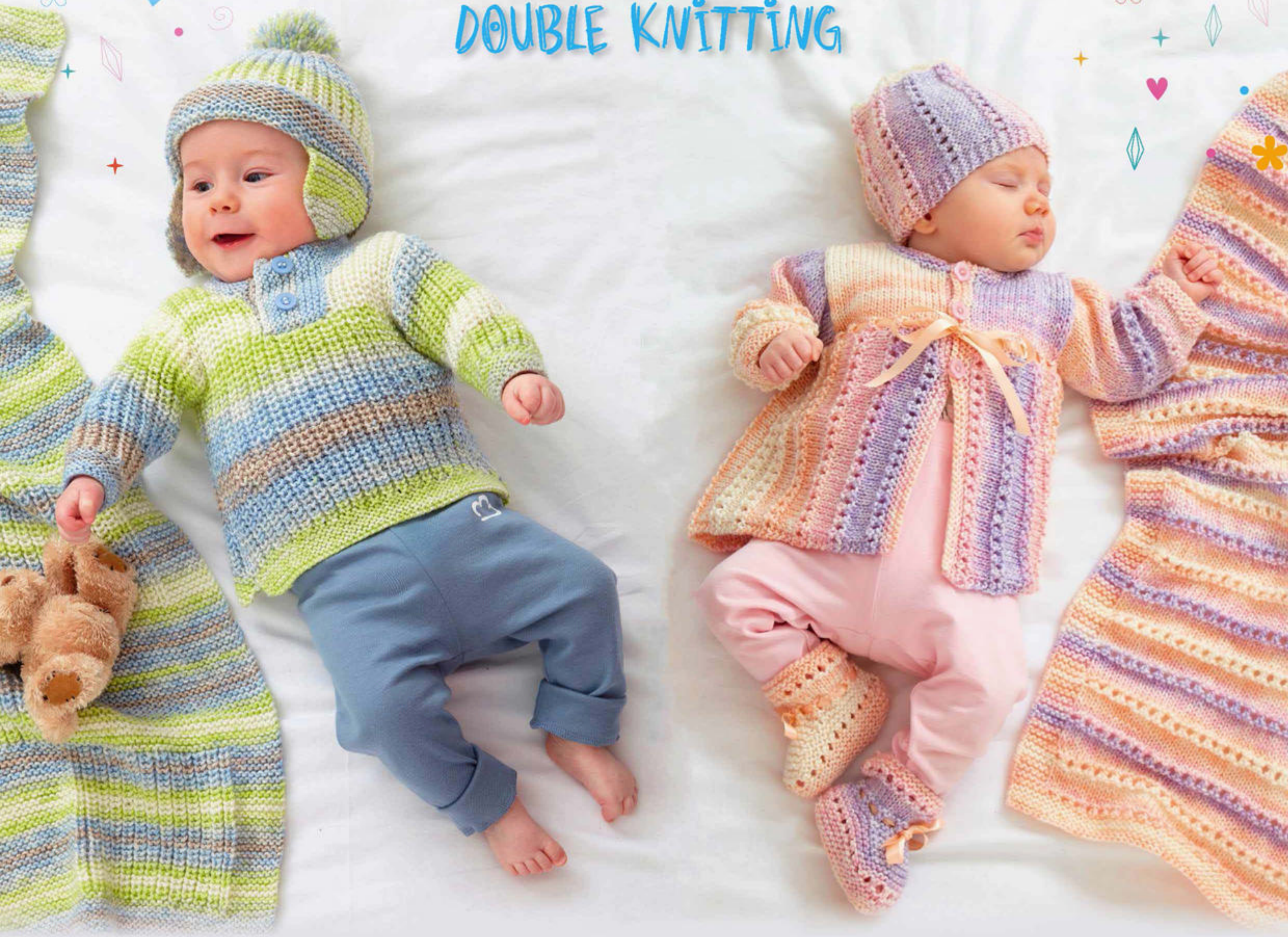
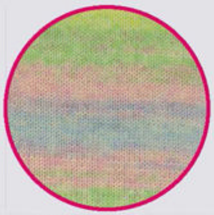


5380 Blueberry Pie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ISSUE 136

Discover the best makes for both your home and your wardrobe in this packed summer issue! Create two mosaic projects, a lacy jumper, an upcycled denim jacket, circus-themed accessories and a bold granny square skirt. Plus, find great makes for gifts, including an ami' armadillo, photo frames and more.

SEE OUR BACK ISSUE PROJECTS IN DETAIL ON RAVELRY BIT.LY/RAVSIMPLYC

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Hook a cute pink fairy armadillo!
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ISSUE 134

Zigzag florals collection, short-sleeved jumper, ami' King Charles III, filet stitch curtains.

ISSUE 134

Embroidered crochet collection, granny circles cardi, ami' duckling, ripple vest and scarf, fun pouffe.

ISSUE 133

Mini motifs collection, stripy poncho, ami' peas in a pod, dolly mixture blanket, checked cardigan.

ISSUE 132

Stained glass collection, tessellation jumper, ami' Highland cow, textured blanket, lacy necklace.

ISSUE 131

Unisex style collection, peacock jumper, ami' orca, mohair scarf, baby jumper, yin-yang heart cushion.

ISSUE 130

Upcycled Christmas collection, granny stitch cardi, holiday jumper, ami' echidna, loom blanket, festive hat.

ISSUE 129

Neon Christmas collection, festive star jumper, ami' Santa pug, Advent calendars, chunky blanket.

ISSUE 128

Happy little gifts collection, sunflower cardi, ami' alien, leaf motifs, space bunting, fan stitch jumper.

ISSUE 127

Street style collection, polo-neck jumper, ami' bookworm, kids' Halloween jumper, mushroom blanket.

ISSUE 126

Chequerboard collection, floral motif blouse, ami' hookster granny, chic scarf, upcycled bikini top.

ISSUE 125

Alpaca collection, ripple jumper, ami' hula flamingo, floral flip-flops, lacy poncho, sheep baby blanket.

ISSUE 124

Coastal homewares collection, Bruges-lace T-shirt, poseable ami' frog, watermelon scarves, tiny teddies.

ISSUE 123

Summer Fair Isle collection, mum and child cardis, ami' coronation queen, granny square blanket.

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Simply Crochet

PATTERNS & PUZZLES

TEST YOUR CROCHET KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

INCLUDES 20 YARN BRAINTEASERS

Easy construction and colourwork

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE AMIGURUMI

WORDSEARCH, WORDOKU, MAZE AND MORE!

CROCHET A CROSSWORD!

ALL NEW PATTERNS

Simply Crochet

PATTERNS & PUZZLES

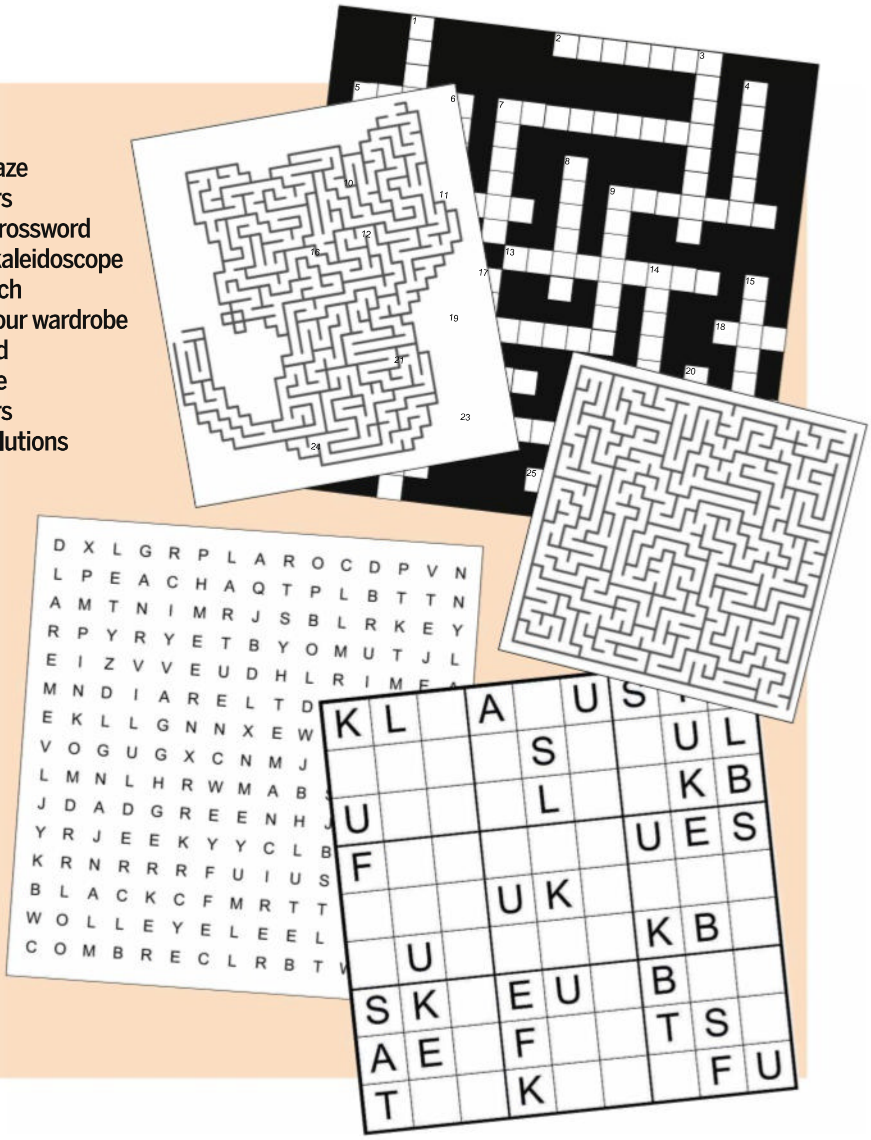
Keep your mind sharp as a darning needle with this fun collection full of puzzle-themed crochet and crochet-themed puzzles! For this extra-large bonus magazine, puzzle maker Debbie Dietke has created crosswords, word searches, mazes, word stars and wordoku puzzles, all themed around or related to our favourite yarncrafts. And some of our top designers have created new ways for you to show off your love of brainteasers – decorate your home with a word game cushion and crossword throw, prop some spot the difference dolls up on your mantelpiece for guests to mull over or advertise your love of problem solving with a colourwork jigsaw-themed jumper. They all make for great gifts, too! Now, if you'll excuse me, I have some fun activities to complete. Won't you join me?

Sara

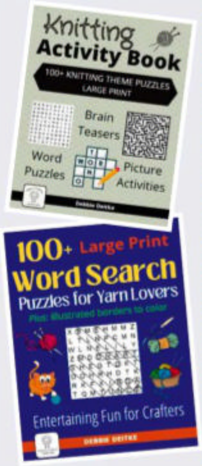
Editor, *Simply Crochet*

THE PUZZLES

8 Crochet fun crossword
9 Gorgeous granny squares crossword
10 Hooked on colour wordsearch
14 Spot the difference amigurumi
14 Word star
14 Cat maze
15 Yarn shopping crossword
16 Wordoku
17 Crochet companion word search
18 Sheep maze
18 Word stars
21 Blanket crossword
22 Crochet kaleidoscope wordsearch
27 Elevate your wardrobe crossword
28 Bow maze
28 Word stars
29 Puzzle solutions



THE PUZZLE CREATOR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DEBBIE DEITKE

DEBBIE DEITKE
The puzzles in this book have been created by top puzzler Debbie Deitke. By combining her hobbies and love of puzzles, Debbie creates puzzle books for yarn enthusiasts. Find her books on Amazon.co.uk or through her website, www.merrycrafters.com

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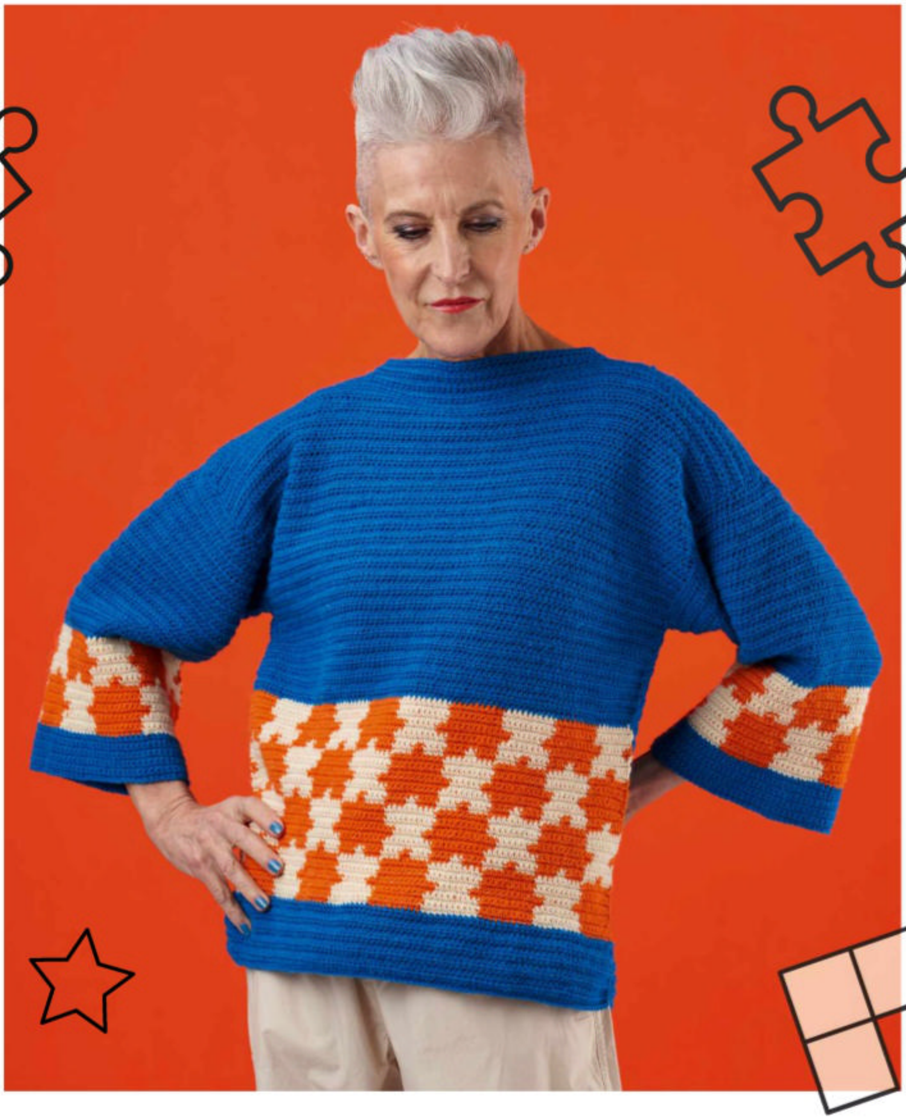
GREAT PATTERNS TO INSPIRE YOU...

04 Jigsaw puzzle jumper
Piece together the perfect outfit with this graphic make
11 Spot the difference dolls
These amigurumi cuties have seven differences between them
19 Wordsearch blanket
Leave the squares in this throw blank or add crochet letters
23 Word game cushion
Show off your love of completing brain-twisters online

Practise your colourwork



PIECE IT TOGETHER

You're sure to look the part at your next games night with Claire Blowers' jigsaw jumper

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆
DK WEIGHT
3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners ColourLab DK (100% wool, 100g/225m)
  Yarn A Electric Blue (364)
  Yarn B Zesty Orange (476)
  Yarn C Natural Cream (010)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

For yarn stockists contact WY Spinners 01535 664500 www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

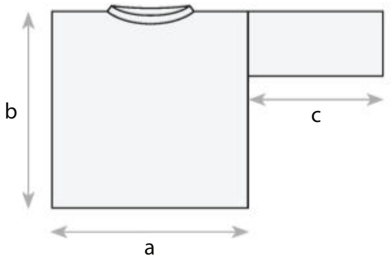
20 sts and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over half treble crochet using a 3mm hook or size needed to obtain stated tension See Notes about tension over double crochet jigsaw puzzle section

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

SAVE OR SPLURGE

For a more budget-friendly make, try Cygnet DK: Yarn A Saxe (1255), Yarn B Jaffa (6632), Yarn C Linen (0234).
Check hook size, tension and ball length if you use a different yarn.
For yarn stockists contact www.cygnetyarns.com



Bust width a: 50 (55: 60: 65)cm, 19¾ (21¾: 23½: 25½)in
Length b: 60 (62: 64: 66)cm, 23½ (24½: 25¼: 26)in
Sleeve length c: 32cm, 12½in

Whether you hook this for yourself or for a puzzle-loving friend, this is one jumper that's sure to be a perfect fit! It's also a great introduction to tapestry colourwork.

NOTES

Jumper is worked in htr from bottom up in separate pieces for Front, Back and Sleeves. A Collar is added once pieces are seamed. The jigsaw puzzle section is worked in dc following the Chart on page 43. Each square counts as 1dc stitch. Read RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right. Change colour in the last yrh of the previous st. Work over the unused yarn to enclose it in the dc stitches. You may need to use a larger hook size to maintain the same stitch tension as the htr sts over the colourwork section.

JUMPER

FRONT

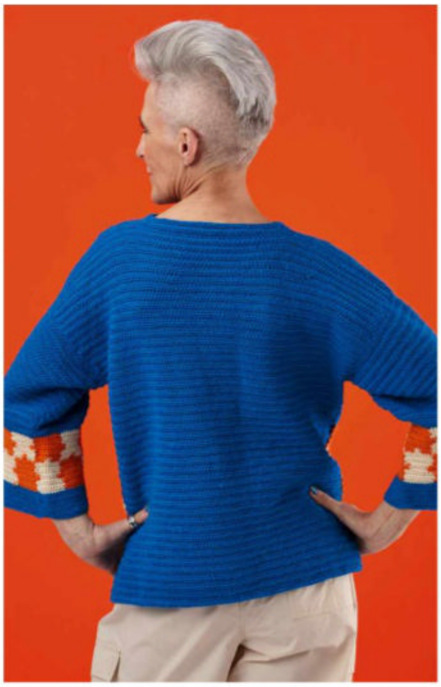
Using Yarn A, ch101 (111: 121: 131).
Row 1 (RS) Htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [100 (110: 120: 130) sts]
Rows 2-10 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), htr in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

PUZZLE SECTION

Join Yarns B and C.
Follow the Chart on page 43, working Rows 1-30 and then repeating Rows 10-20. Row 1 is written out below to help you follow the Chart.
Row 1 (RS) Using Yarn B, ch1, 10dc, (change to Yarn C, 10dc, change to Yarn B, 10dc) repeat to end, turn. [10 (11: 12: 13) puzzle pieces]
Rows 2-40 As Row 1, using the chart for all colour changes.
Fasten off Yarns B and C.

FRONT TO SHOULDER

Join Yarn A in first st with RS facing and work in htr as Row 2 until work measures approx 58 (60: 62: 64)cm ending with WS row.



The slouchy design features dropped shoulders for a super-comfortable fit

FIRST SHOULDER

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 32 (36: 40: 44) htr, turn leaving rem sts unworked.
[32 (36: 40: 44) sts]
Row 2 Ch1, htr in each st to end.
Fasten off.

SECOND SHOULDER

Skip central 36 (38: 40: 42) sts and rejoin Yarn A in next st.
Repeat Rows 1-2 of First Shoulder.
Fasten off.

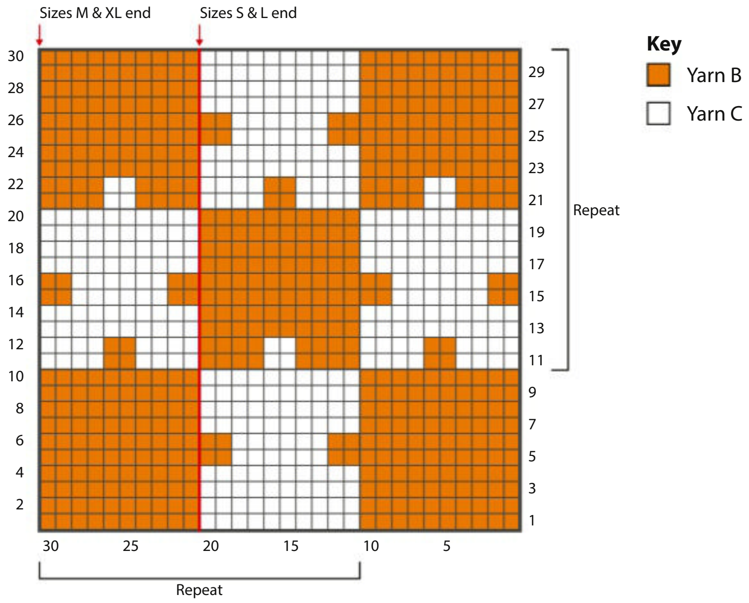
SIZE		S	M	L	XL
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	100	110	120	130
	in	39¼	43¼	47¼	51¼
LENGTH	cm	60	62	64	66
	in	23½	24½	25¼	26
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	32	32	32	32
	in	12½	12½	12½	12½
YARN A	100g	5	6	7	8
YARN B	100g	1	2	2	2
YARN C	100g	1	2	2	2

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

Work just two repeats, which is 20 rows, of the jigsaw puzzle on the cuffs of the sleeves

Work the jigsaw puzzle colourwork on the front of the jumper, as well as the sleeves

Jigsaw jumper chart



BACK

Work as for Front without puzzle section until piece measures same length to shoulder as Front to Shoulder, ending with WS row.

Repeat First and Second Shoulder as for Front.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

CUFF

With Yarn A, ch81 (91: 101: 111).

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each stitch to end, turn. [80 (90: 100: 110) sts]

Rows 2-10 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off.

PUZZLE SECTION

Join Yarns B and C.

Follow the Chart on above, working Rows 1-20.

[8 (9: 10: 11) puzzle pieces]

Fasten off Yarns B and C.

MAIN SLEEVE

Join Yarn A with RS facing and work in htr until work measures approx 32cm.

TO MAKE UP

Sew shoulder seams. Align top centre of Sleeve with shoulder and sew Sleeves to Front and Back. Sew underarm and side seams leaving the bottom 10 rows (below puzzle section) open.

COLLAR

Join Yarn A at shoulder seam of neck opening with RS facing.

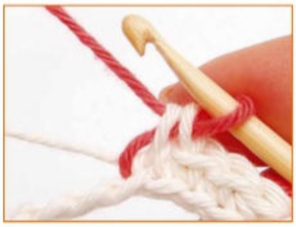
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, htr evenly around neck opening, ss to first htr, turn.

Rounds 2-4 Ch1, htr in each st around, ss to first htr, turn.

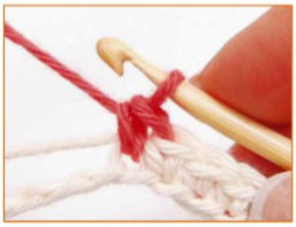
Fasten off.

Weave in all ends and block to measurements.

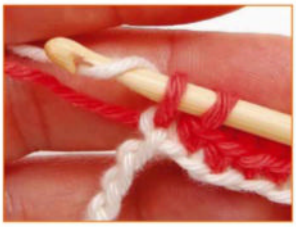
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK TAPESTRY COLOURWORK



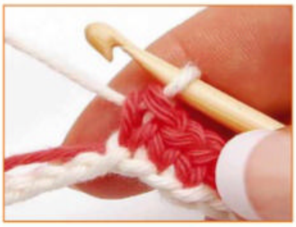
1 Work to the point where you want to change colour and on the last stitch in the first colour, work the final yrh using the second colour.



2 Work a stitch using the second colour, but hold the working end of the first colour on top of the stitches below and make sure you work the new stitch over the top of it, effectively encasing the first colour.



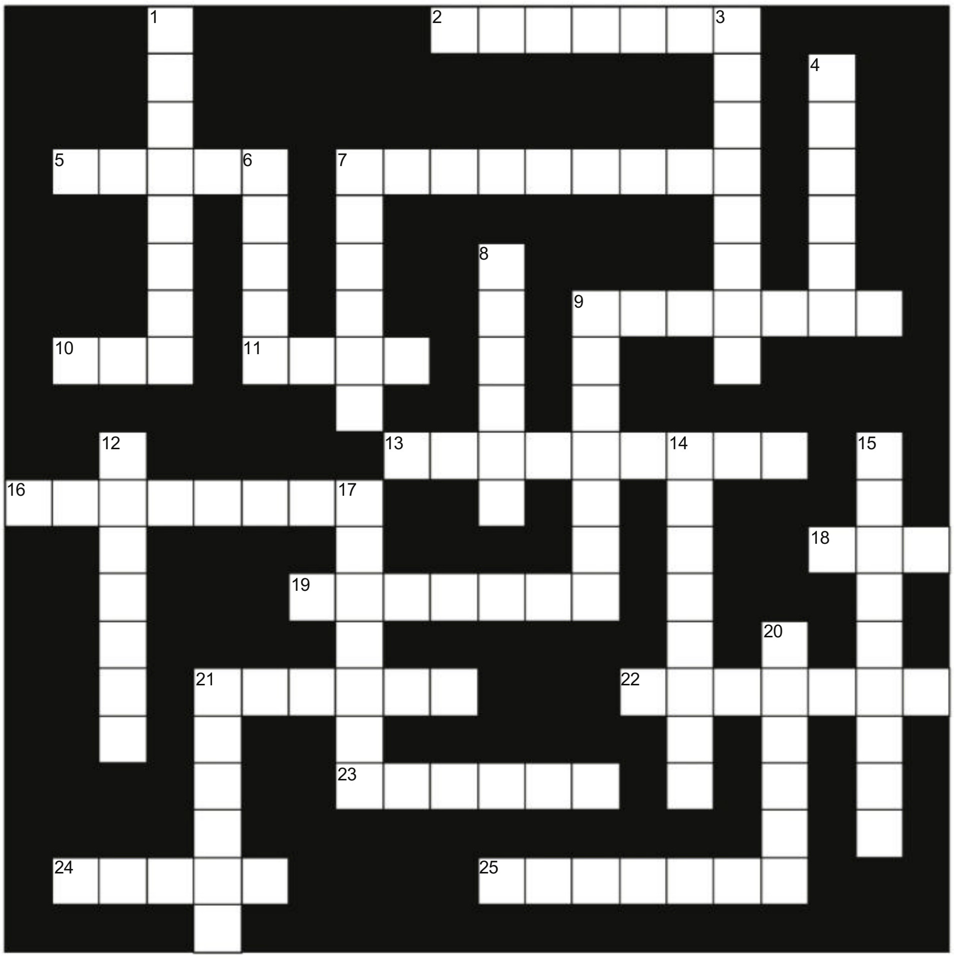
3 Continue working in this way, encasing the working end of the first colour. When you want to change colour again, use the same method as before: on the last stitch in the second colour, work the final yrh using the first colour.



4 It's important not to pull too tightly on the previous colour of yarn or it will pucker the fabric. Continue to work stitches using the first colour, over the top of the working end of the second colour.

CROCHET FUN

How well do you know your crochet terms? Test them out in this crossword!



ACROSS

2 Get away for some fibre fun and classes (7)
5 Fingerless gloves (5)
7 Lacy pattern that resembles a tropical fruit (9)
9 Provide help for those in need (7)
10 Crochet-along (3)
11 To rip out or unravel (4)
13 Afghan made from graphs (9)
16 Crochet street art (8)
18 Work in progress (3)
19 Written crochet instructions (7)
21 Snug hat with a brim all the way around (6)
22 Interior décor that hangs (4, 3)
23 Very fashionable or modern (6)
24 Crochet organisation or club (5)
25 Tabletop protector for a drink (7)

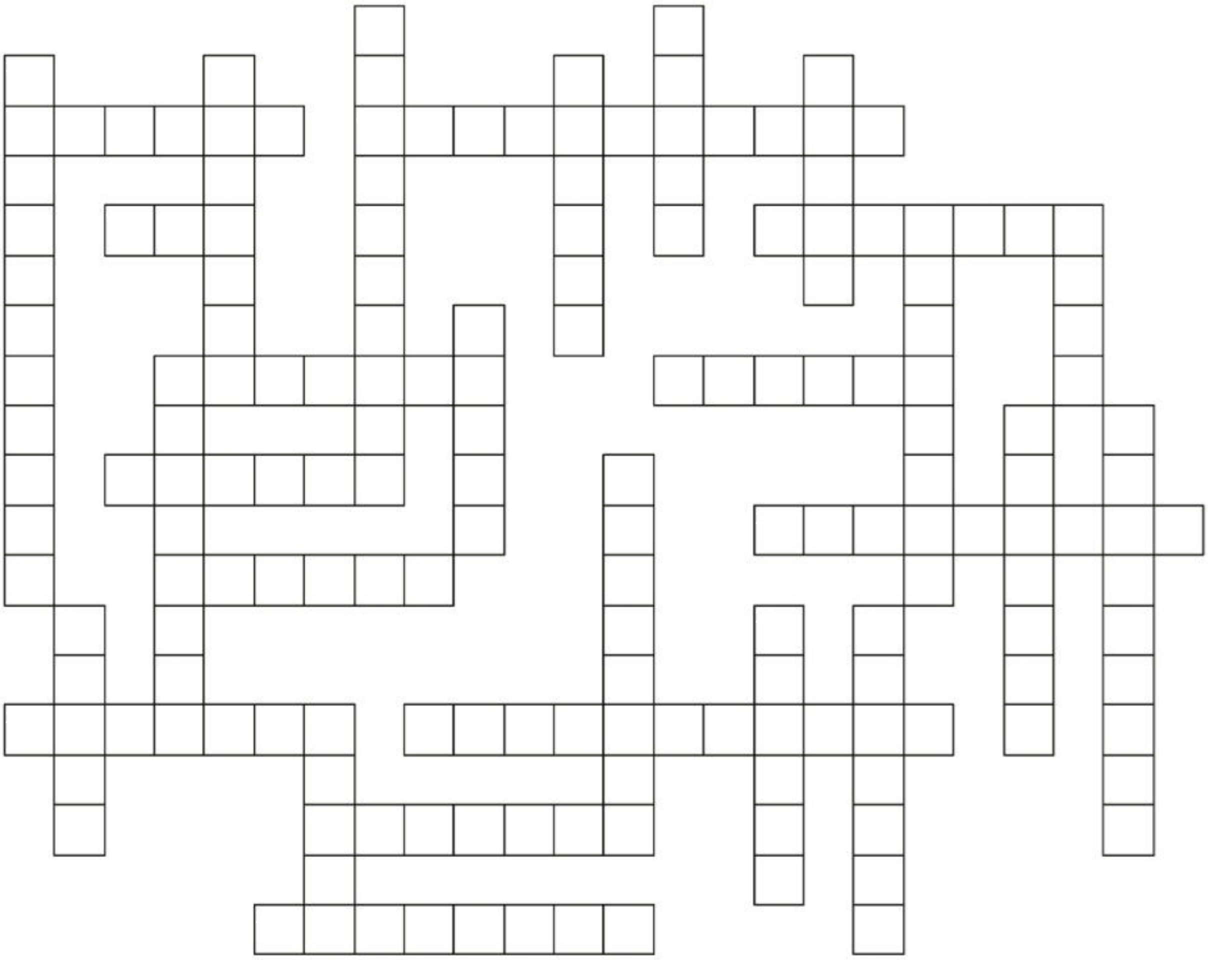
DOWN

1 Event with exhibitors, demos, workshops and designers (8)
3 Colourwork technique that creates a graphic pattern (8)
4 Add to a cardigan for your hands and items (6)
6 Winter accessory that wraps around the neck (5)
7 Accessory added to the top of a warm hat (6)
8 Summer footwear, flip-flop (6)
9 Pillow for a sofa (7)
12 Handicraft that uses a hook and yarn (7)
14 Hair accessory (8)
15 Crochet stuffed toy (9)
17 Afghan, throw, bed covering (7)
20 Crochet a bouquet of these (6)
21 Christmas ornament (6)

Solutions on page 29

GORGEOUS GRANNY SQUARES

Solve the criss-cross by placing these granny square-related words in the correct position in the grid



3 LETTERS
FUN

4 LETTERS
EDGE

5 LETTERS
CHAIN
MOTIF
RETRO
SOLID
THROW

6 LETTERS
CIRCLE
CORNER
FLOWER
PILLOW
SIMPLE
SQUARE

7 LETTERS
BLANKET
CLASSIC
CLUSTER
PATTERN
STYLISH
TOTE BAG
VINTAGE

8 LETTERS
CLOTHING
CONSTRAST
STITCHES
TIMELESS

9 LETTERS
COLOURFUL
VERSATILE

10 LETTERS
DECORATIVE

11 LETTERS
ACCESSORIES
COMBINATION
TRADITIONAL

Solutions on page 29

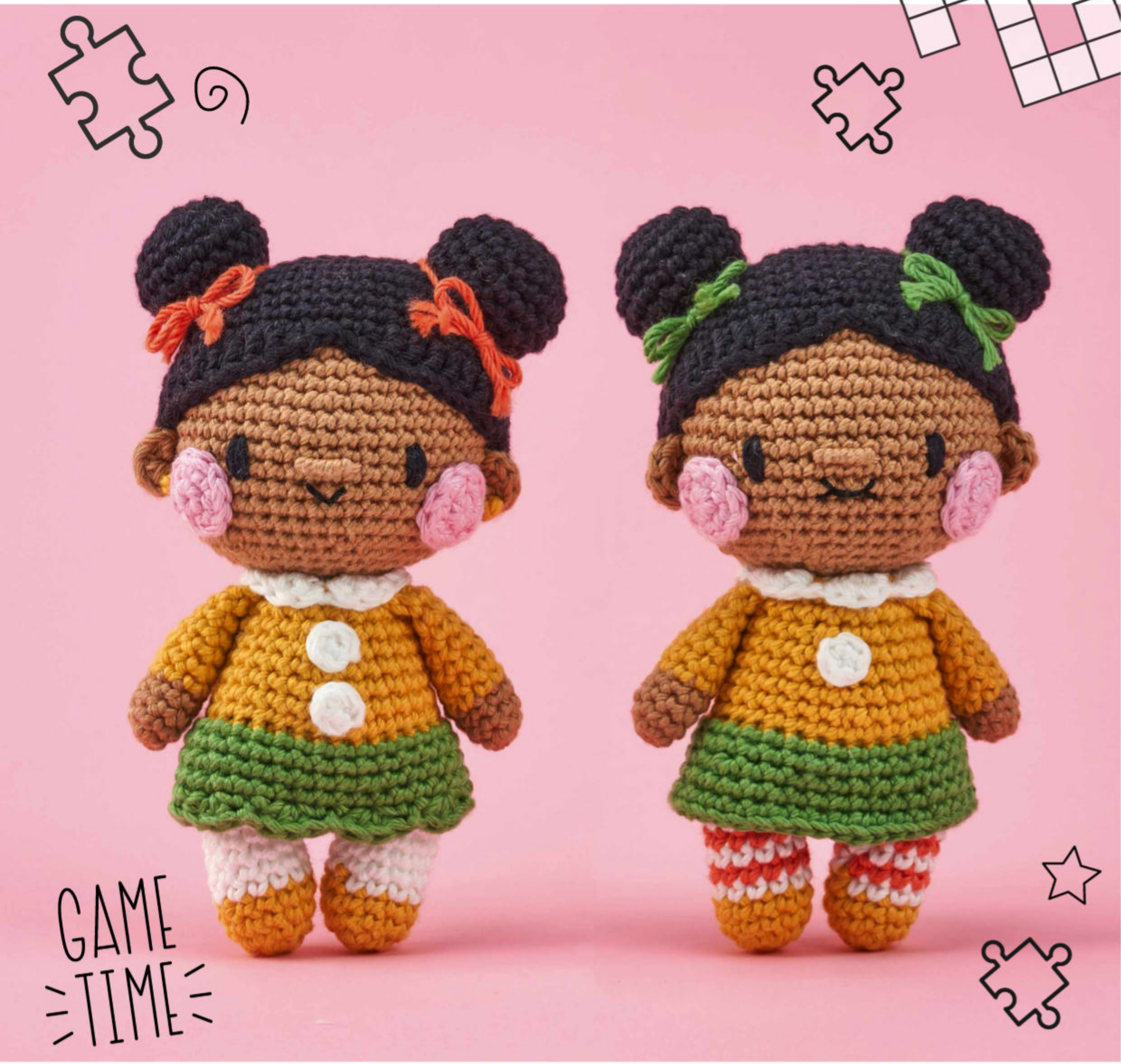
HOOKED ON COLOUR

Find all the different shades in this colourful word search

D	X	L	G	R	P	L	A	R	O	C	D	P	V	N
L	P	E	A	C	H	A	Q	T	P	L	B	T	T	N
A	M	T	N	I	M	R	J	S	B	L	R	K	E	Y
R	P	Y	R	Y	E	T	B	Y	O	M	U	T	J	L
E	I	Z	V	V	E	U	D	H	L	R	I	M	E	A
M	N	D	I	A	R	E	L	T	D	H	Z	G	E	V
E	K	L	L	G	N	N	X	E	W	C	I	A	G	E
V	O	G	U	G	X	C	N	M	J	E	I	L	N	N
L	M	N	L	H	R	W	M	A	B	S	N	H	A	D
J	D	A	D	G	R	E	E	N	H	J	Y	P	R	E
Y	R	J	E	E	K	Y	Y	C	L	B	A	L	O	R
K	R	N	R	R	R	F	U	I	U	S	B	F	V	Z
B	L	A	C	K	C	F	M	R	T	T	W	L	D	Q
W	O	L	L	E	Y	E	L	E	E	L	P	R	U	P
C	O	M	B	R	E	C	L	R	B	T	W	X	R	E

AMETHYST
BEIGE
BLACK
BLUE
BOLD
BURGUNDY
CORAL
CREAM
EMERALD
FUCHSIA
GREEN
GREY
LAVENDER
LIME
MINT
NAVY
NEUTRAL
OLIVE
OMBRE
ORANGE
PASTEL
PEACH
PINK
PLUM
PURPLE
RED
RUBY
TEAL
WHITE
YELLOW

Solutions on page 29



TWIN SISTERS

Spot the seven differences between these two adorable dolls by Andreia Pereira Ferreira

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

DK WEIGHT

2.5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar Happy Cotton
  (100% cotton, 20g/43m)
  2 balls of each:
  Biscuit (776)
  Liquorice (775)
  1 ball of each:
  Piggy (764)
  Melon (794)
  Dolly (761)
  Freckle (753)
  Treetop (780)
- A 2.5mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Black stranded cotton
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Dolls measure 13cm (5in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

SCAN ME

Scan this code to learn more about making amigurumi toys

These little girls have a lot in common, but look closely – there are seven differences between the two! Make them both and gift to an observant friend, or give them to a pair of siblings. Just want to play the spot the difference game? Turn to page 14!

NOTES

Pattern is worked in the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.
Make 2 complete Dolls, following the specific instructions for each version as given. The Doll with plain Legs is referred to as Doll A and the Doll with striped tights is referred to as Doll B.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE DOLLS

HEAD

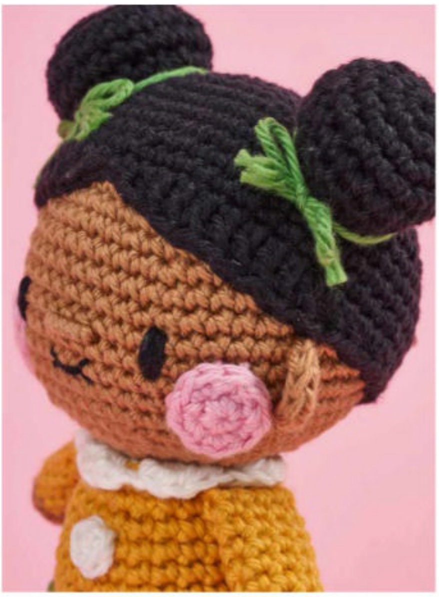
Using Biscuit, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (13dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]
Rounds 9-10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 (14dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 12-18 Dc in each st around.
Stuff as you work.
Round 19 (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 20 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 21 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 22 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 23 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 24 (Dc2tog) 9 times. [9 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 9 sts and pull tight to close.
Using Liquorice, embroider eyes over Rounds 14-15 approx 9 sts apart.
Using Biscuit, embroider a nose between Rounds 14-15, 3 sts wide. Wrap the yarn 8 times around the horizontal line for volume.
Using black stranded cotton, and the image as a guide, embroider a v-shaped mouth on Doll A and a straight mouth on Doll B.

CHEEKS (MAKE 2 PER DOLL)

Using Piggy, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around, ss to beg dc. [10 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Sew Cheeks next to eyes, over Rounds 15-18.

EARS (MAKE 2 PER DOLL)

Using Biscuit, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5htr into loop. [5 sts]



Embroider a differently shaped mouth, and add hair ties in green yarn for Doll B

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Sew Ears on each side of Head, between Rounds 14-16, 6 sts away from eyes.
For Doll A, embroider French knots for the earrings using Melon.

HAIR

Using Liquorice, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-7 (RS) As Rounds 1-7 of Head. [42 sts]
Round 8 (6dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 9 (15dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [51 sts]
Rounds 10-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 10dc, 5htr, 8tr, 1htr, 1dc, 1ss, 1dc, 1htr, 8tr, 5htr, 10dc.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Sew Hair on Head, with the ss centred with nose, 7 rounds above it.

HAIR BUNS (MAKE 2 PER DOLL)

Using Liquorice, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-3 (RS) As Rounds 1-3 of Head. [18 sts]
Round 4 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [21 sts]
Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 (1dc, dc2tog) 7 times. [14 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Stuff the Buns and sew to Hair between Rounds 7-11, with approx 12 sts between them at front.
For Doll A, cut 2 strands of Freckle to make ties.
For Doll B, cut 2 strands of Treetop to make ties.
Wrap the ties around the base of each Bun and make a bow at the front.

LEGS (MAKE 2 PER DOLL)

Using Melon, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around.
Change to Dolly.
For Doll A, use Dolly to end.

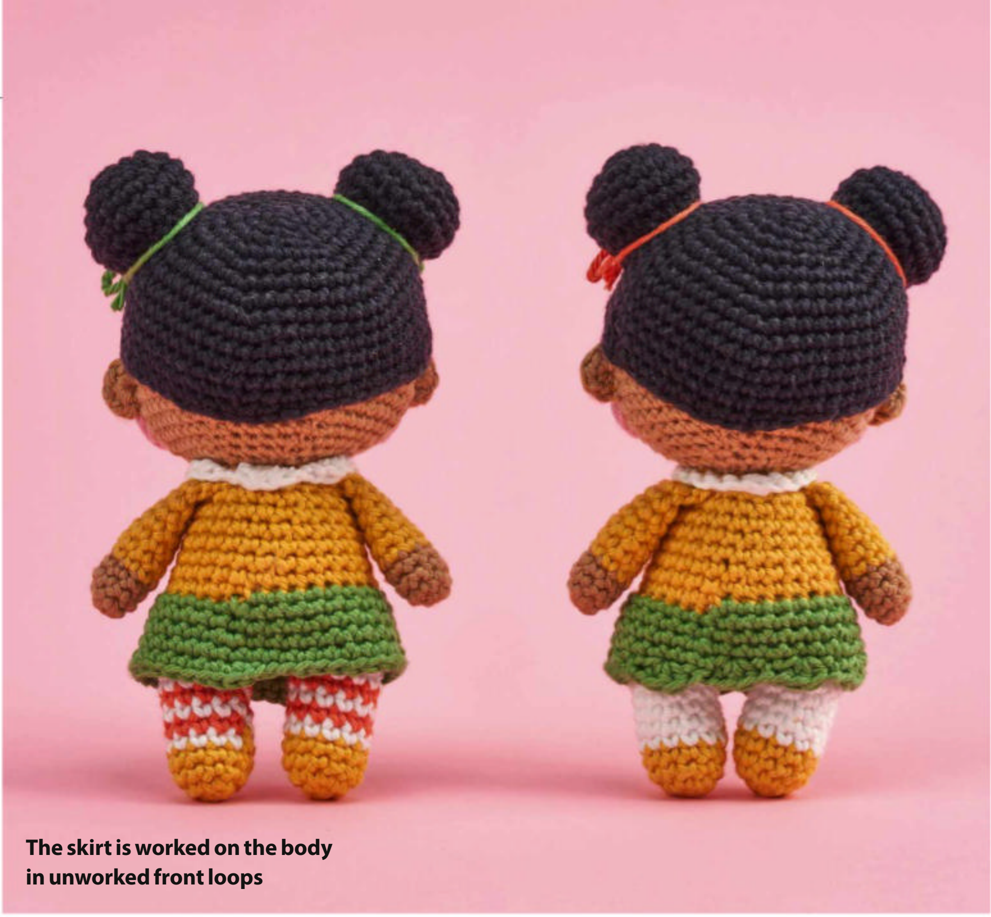
For Doll B, work 1 round in Dolly and 1 round in Freckle.
Rounds 5-9 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off first Leg only. Stuff the Legs.

BODY
Body is worked from the Legs. Cont with Dolly.
Round 10 (RS) Ch2, 12dc around first Leg, 2dc in each ch between Legs, 12dc around second Leg, 2dc in back of each ch between Legs. [32 sts]
Rounds 11-13 Dc in each st around.
Change to Melon.
Round 14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 Dc in bl of each st to end.
Round 16 (6dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [28 sts]
Round 17 Dc in each st around.
Stuff the Body as you work.
Round 18 (12dc, dc2tog) 2 times. [26 sts]
Round 19 Dc in each st around.
Round 20 (11dc, dc2tog) 2 times. [24 sts]
Round 21 Dc in each st around.
Round 22 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Change to Dolly.
Leave a long tail of Melon.

DOLL A ONLY
Round 23 (Working in fl only) 5dc, 3htr, 2tr in next st, 1ss, 2tr in next st, 3htr, 4dc. [20 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

DOLL B ONLY
Round 23 (Working in fl only) (1dc, 3htr in next st, 1ss) 6 times. [30 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

SKIRT
Join Treetop in a fl from Round 14 at back of Body.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in each loop to end. [32 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each st around.
Round 3 (7dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [36 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.


The skirt is worked on the body in unworked front loops

DOLL A ONLY
Round 5 (skip next st, 3htr in next st, skip next st, 1ss) 9 times. [36 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

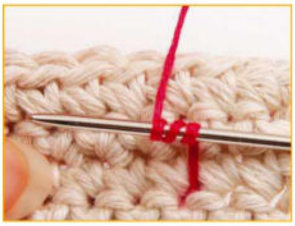
DOLL B ONLY
Round 5 (8dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [40 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

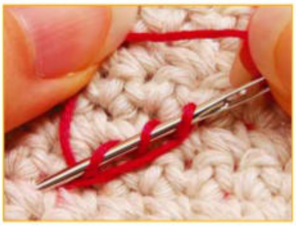
ARMS (MAKE 2 PER DOLL)
Using Biscuit, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around.
Change to Melon.
Rounds 5-10 Dc in each st around.
Stuff lightly.
Flatten final row and work 4dc across to close.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

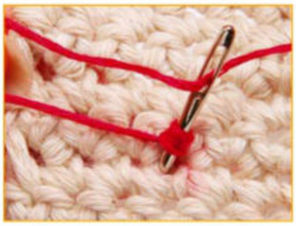
BUTTONS (MAKE 3)
Make 2 for Doll A and 1 for Doll B.
Using Dolly, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into loop, ss to beg dc. [4 sts]
Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

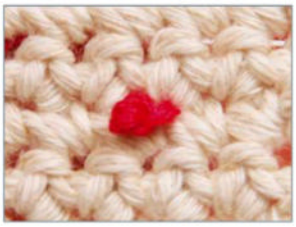
TO MAKE UP
Sew Body to bottom of Head using unworked loops of Round 22.
Sew Arms on each side of Body between Rounds 21-22.
Sew Buttons to front of Body.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A FRENCH KNOT


1 Secure yarn at back of fabric and bring needle to the front. Using thumb and forefinger, hold yarn as it comes out of fabric. Keeping it taut, twist the needle around the yarn 3 times, as shown above.

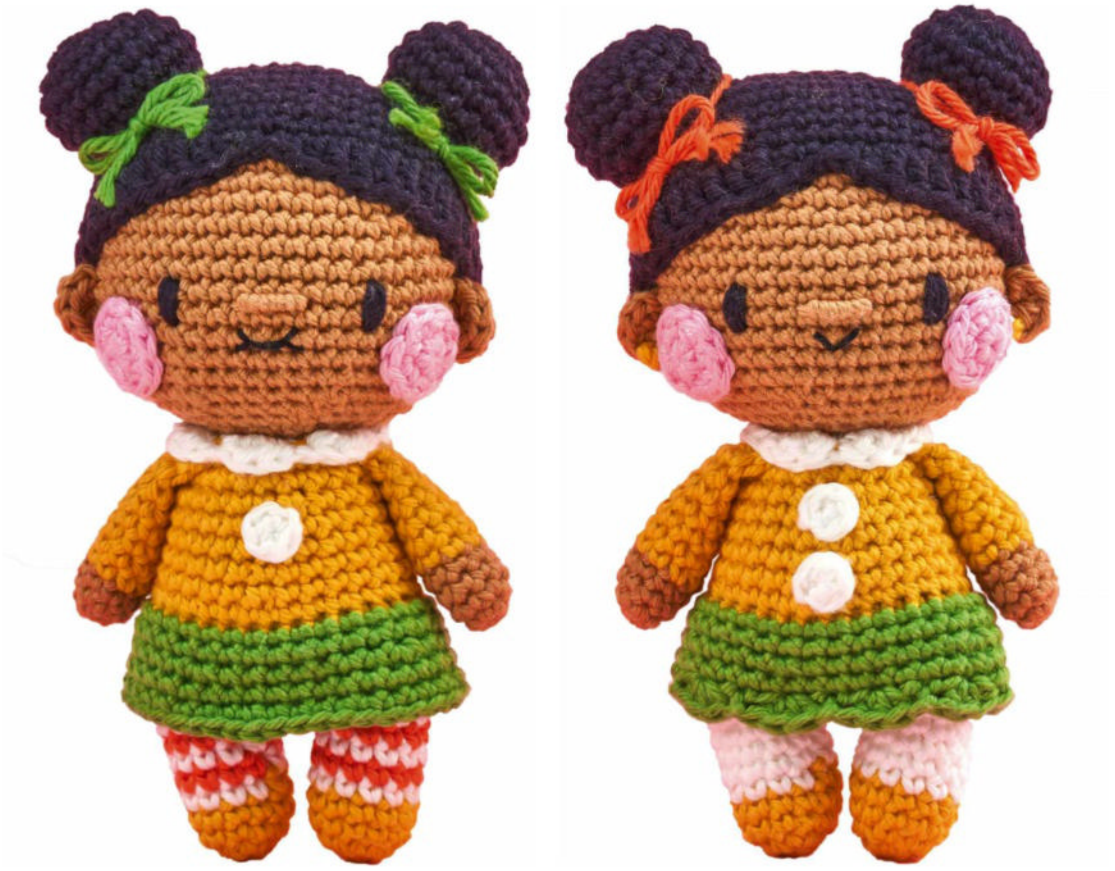

2 Insert needle back into the fabric, very close to where it came out. Tip: you'll need to pierce the fabric, so use a sharp needle.


3 Hold the yarn taut and push the twists of yarn so they sit right up next to the fabric.


4 Pull the needle through gently to form a knot on the surface of the fabric.

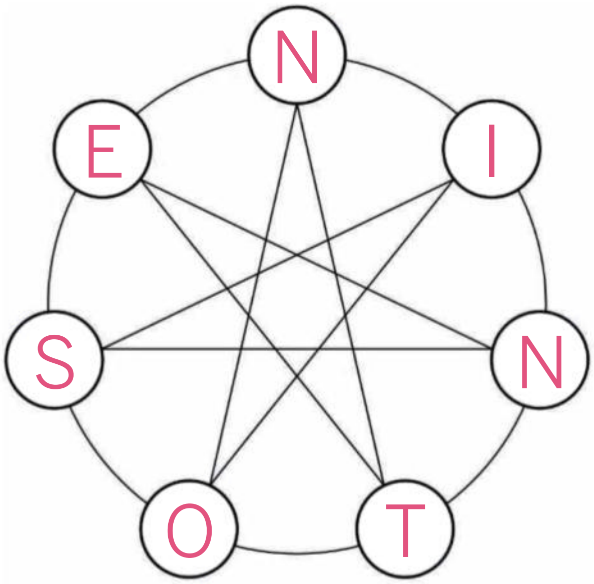
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Circle the seven differences between our two cute dolls



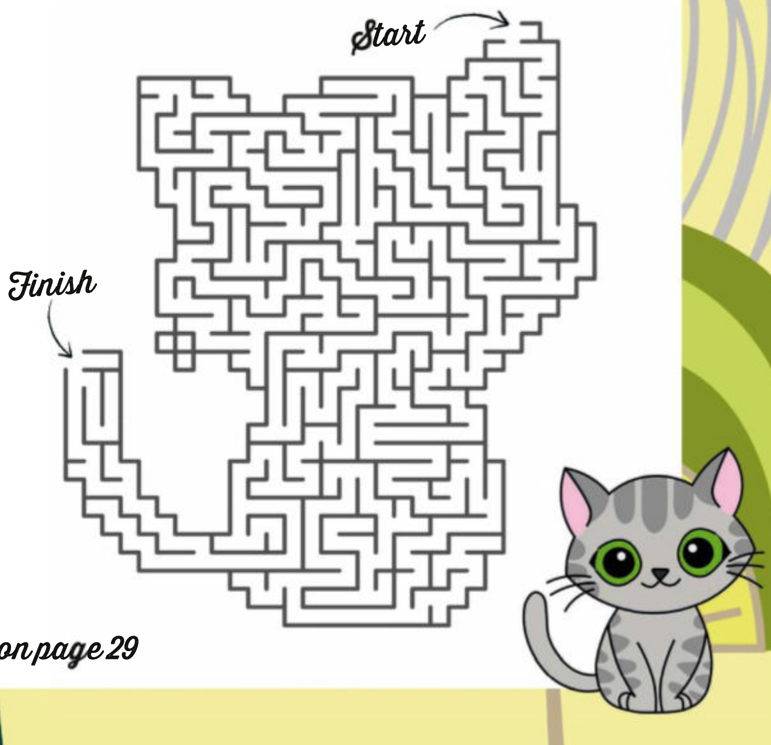
WORD STAR

Uncover a seven-letter word hidden in the star



CAT MAZE

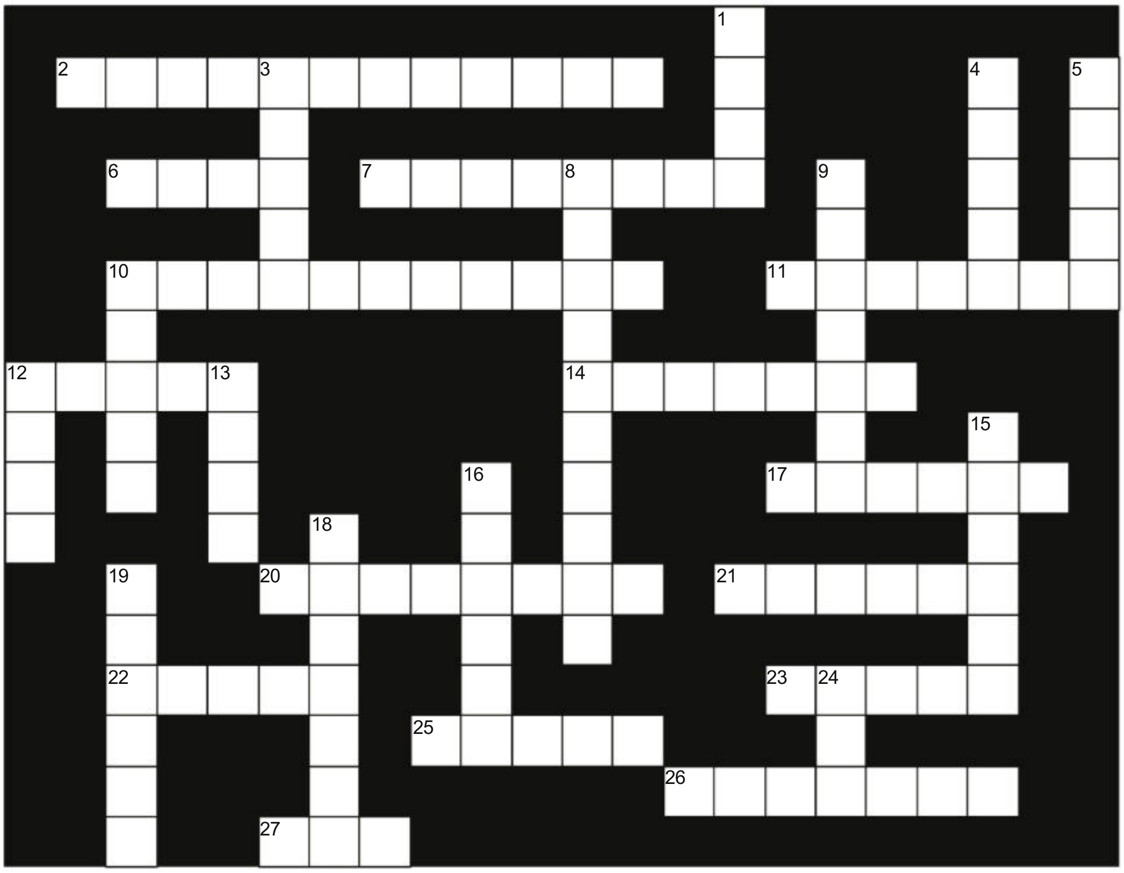
Find a path through the cute cat!



Solutions on page 29

YARN SHOPPING

A fun puzzle to solve over a cup of tea



ACROSS

2 Creates stripes as you crochet (4, 8)

6 This skein is about 20g, ideal for small projects (4)

7 Keeps your yarn ball neat and clean while crocheting (8)

10 Organically grown or made from recycled resources (11)

11 A planned-out task that is done in order to achieve a goal or create a specific item (7)

12 Yarn purchased for no particular project (5)

14 Medium weight yarn (7)

17 The batch number assigned to a colour (3, 3)

20 Hooks, yarn, stitch markers, scissors, etc (8)

21 Thickness of yarn (6)

22 Information about the yarn is on this (5)

23 Oblong-shaped yarn (5)

25 Made by a particular company under a particular name (5)

26 What is in or makes up something (7)

27 Used to colour yarn (3)

DOWN

1 Fibre that comes primarily from sheep (4)

3 Holds a hank of yarn while it's being unwound (5)

4 Animal, plant and synthetic (5)

5 Lightweight yarn (5)

8 Device that spins yarn into a cake (4, 6)

9 A large selection (7)

10 Darker or lighter version of a colour (5)

12 Luxury yarn produced from worms' cocoons (4)

13 Yarn wound around a large ring then twisted (4)

15 A soft and breathable natural plant fibre (6)

16 Red, yellow, blue, green (6)

18 How well the yarn is made (7)

19 Internet shopping (6)

24 Box with yarn, patterns and supplies (3)

Solutions on page 29

WORDOKU

Fill every row, column and 3x3 region with each given letter exactly once

EASY BASKETFUL

K	L		A		U	S	T	E
				S			U	L
U				L			K	B
F						U	E	S
			U	K				
	U					K	B	
S	K		E	U		B		
A	E		F			T	S	
T			K				F	U

MEDIUM FANCYWORK

R		K	N					
		W			O		F	
						K	A	R
				F		A		
				N			W	C
				C	Y		R	N
A		C		K				
Y					N			
W		N	R					A

MEDIUM FAVOURITE

	I					U		
		V		U			I	
		U			R	T	O	
	R		I			V		
	V	F		R	O			
					U	A	E	
	E	T		F			U	
F		I	O			R		
		R	U	T		F		

HARD MERCHANTS

		E	T			R		
R	N		H					
	S				N		E	M
								A
				A	C		N	
	M		N			T	C	H
	T	N			E			
S	A							C

Notes!

CROCHET COMPANION

Hidden in the word search are lots of cute crochet toys – can you find them?

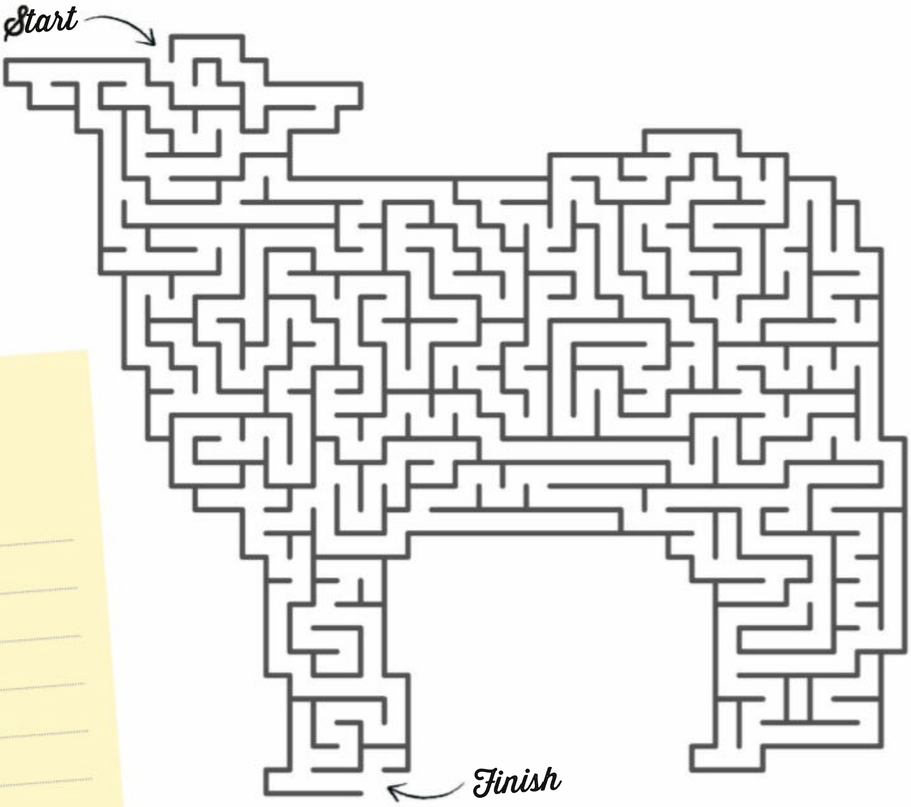
V	K	D	R	S	G	R	E	S	R	O	H	A	E	S
L	C	X	E	T	U	P	A	N	D	A	L	P	L	T
I	T	L	G	B	N	P	L	K	C	R	Z	M	H	A
A	N	O	I	L	I	N	O	J	U	T	Y	S	E	R
N	A	V	T	H	C	E	O	T	P	Z	I	E	T	F
S	H	P	Y	M	O	I	R	G	C	F	B	M	E	I
R	P	D	E	V	R	L	K	R	A	O	N	E	D	S
G	E	E	K	N	N	A	D	Z	K	R	W	R	D	H
I	L	L	N	K	G	I	C	K	E	T	D	M	Y	K
R	E	A	O	G	N	U	O	A	F	Z	M	A	B	G
A	V	H	M	O	R	A	I	K	T	R	L	I	E	K
F	Q	W	S	O	L	Y	R	N	R	K	O	D	A	W
F	V	A	B	A	L	V	L	K	Y	A	M	G	R	Y
E	U	O	Z	W	Z	B	U	N	N	Y	H	G	O	D
R	T	H	O	F	O	X	X	P	J	F	R	S	N	L

ALIEN
BEE
BUNNY
CAT
CUPCAKE
DINOSAUR
DOG
DRAGON
ELEPHANT
FISH
FOX
FROG
GIRAFFE
KOALA
LION
MERMAID
MONKEY
OCTOPUS
OWL
PANDA
PENGUIN
ROBOT
SEAHORSE
SHARK
SNAIL
STARFISH
TEDDY BEAR
TIGER
UNICORN
WHALE

Solutions on page 30

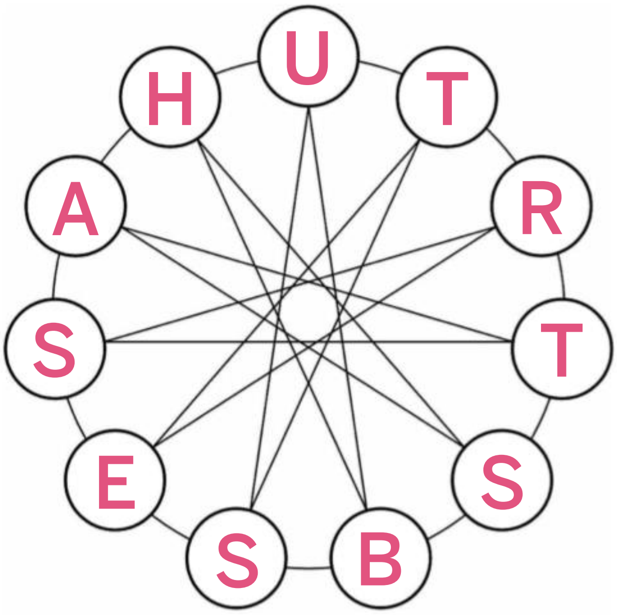
SHEEP MAZE

See how long it takes you to plan a path through the woolly sheep


Start
Finish

WORD STARS

Use these letters to spell out a ten-letter word
and a five-letter word relating to crochet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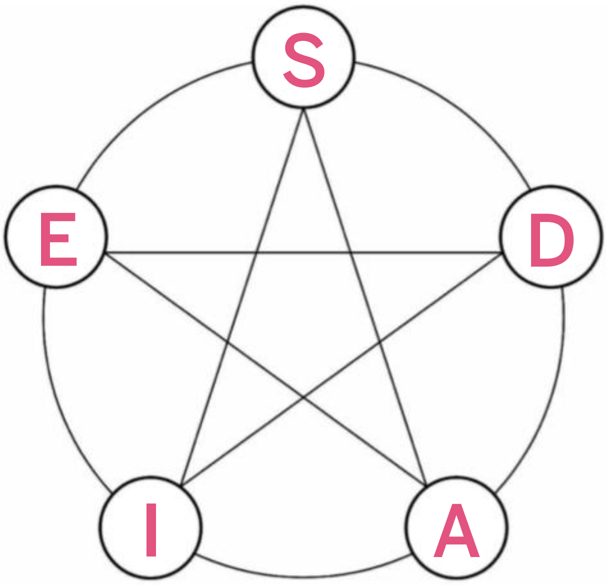
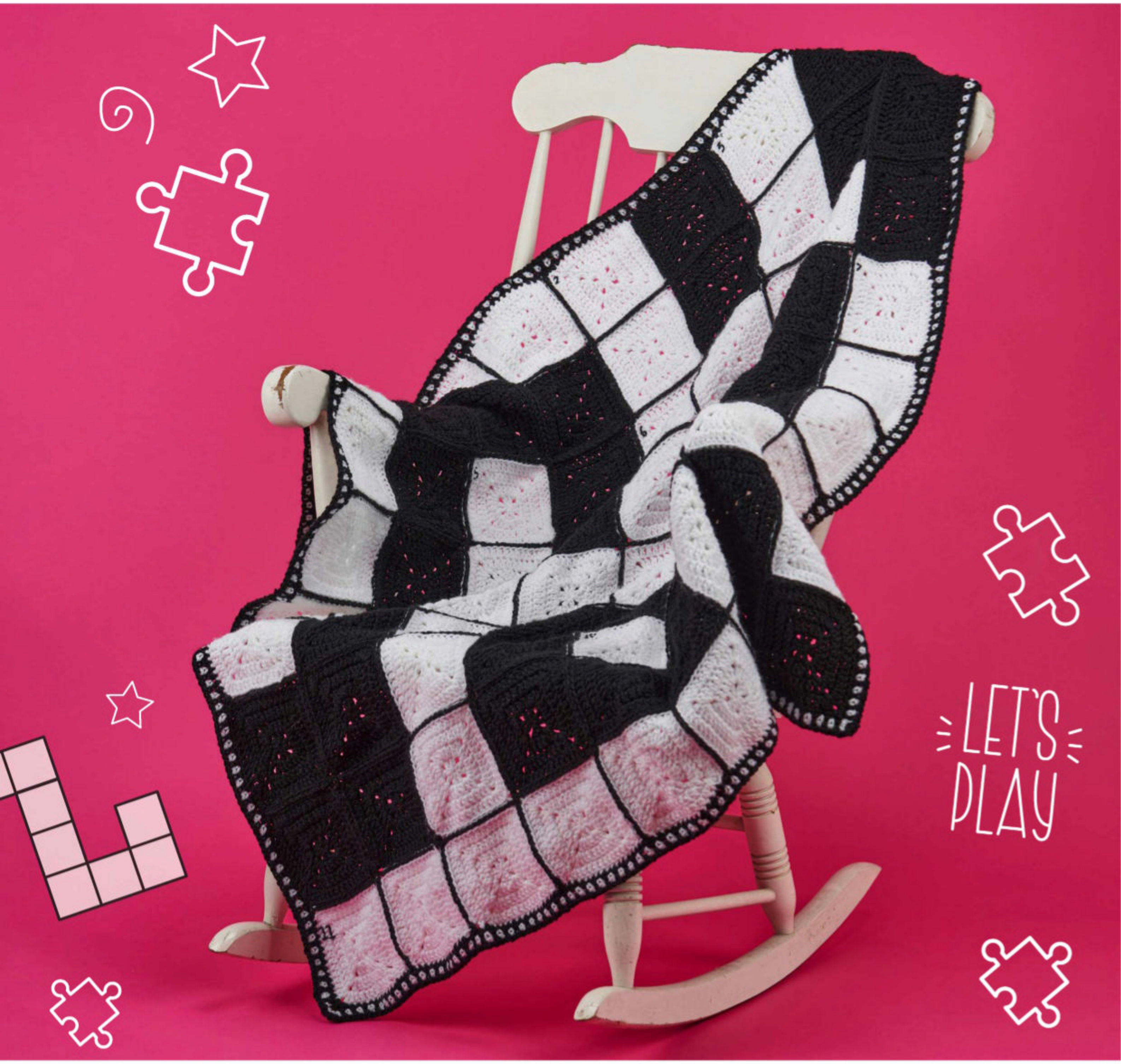


Solutions on page 30



OH, MY WORD!

Puzzle out this granny square crossword blanket designed by Catherine Venner

EASY PEASY ☆★☆

DK ARAN

5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special Aran
  (100% acrylic, 100g/196m)
  4 balls of **Yarn A** White (1001)
  3 balls of **Yarn B** Black (1002)
- Stylecraft Special DK
  (100% acrylic, 100g/295m)
  1 ball of **Yarn C** Black (1002)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

For yarn stockists contact Stylecraft 01484 848435 www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx 105x105cm (41½x41½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

surface crochet Position yarn on WS, insert hook through fabric from RS to WS, yrh and pull up a loop, *insert hook back through to WS in direction you want the crochet to travel, yrh and pull up a loop, pull through loop on hook; rep from * as required

For a full list, see page 86 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

No longer relegated to newspapers and activity books, this crossword puzzle has broken free and is taking up residence in your living room! Made with black and white granny squares, this throw can be left blank or filled in with the answers on page 31.

NOTES

Squares are worked in the round with RS facing, then joined using a flat slip stitch join. Refer to the puzzle on page 21 when joining the Squares.

CROSSWORD BLANKET

SQUARES (MAKE 81)

Make 45 in Yarn A and 36 in Yarn B.

Make a magic ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr into ring, ch1, (2tr into ring, ch1) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [8 tr and 4 ch-1 sps]

Round 2 (RS) Ss across to ch-1-sp, ch3, (tr, ch2, 2tr) in same sp, tr in next 2 tr, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next ch-1 sp, tr in next 2 tr; repeat from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.
[24 tr and 4 ch-2 sps]

Round 3 Ss across to ch-1-sp, ch3, (tr, ch2, 2tr) in same sp, tr in next 6 tr, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next ch-1 sp, tr in next 6 tr; repeat from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.
[40 tr and 4 ch-2 sps]

Round 4 Ss across to ch-1-sp, ch3, (tr, ch2, 2tr) in same sp, tr in next 10 tr, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next ch-1 sp, tr in next 10 tr; repeat from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.
[56 tr and 4 ch-2 sps]

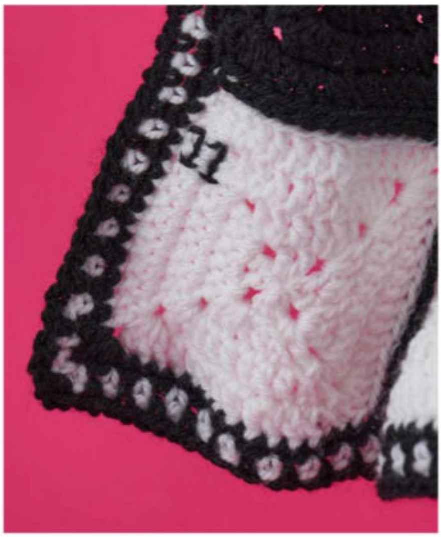
Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Use the puzzle as a guide when joining the Squares.

Ss seam the Squares together.

Using Yarn C, embroider the numbers as shown.



After joining the squares together, work an edging in two colours all around the blanket

EDGING

Join Yarn B in any corner.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), *(2dc, ch1, 2dc) in corner ch-sp, dc evenly across to next corner; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A in any ch-1 sp.

Round 2 Ch1, *(dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-sp, (ch1, skip 1 st, dc in next st) across to next corner; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in any ch-1 sp.

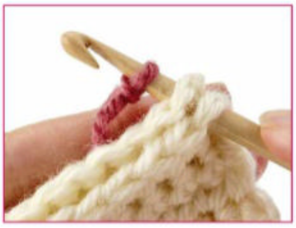
Round 3 Ch1, *(dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-sp, (ch1, skip 1 st, dc in next ch-sp) across to next corner; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off.

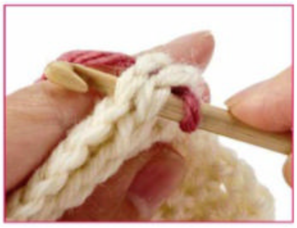
TO FINISH

Using Yarn C, surface crochet the answers to the clues onto the Squares.

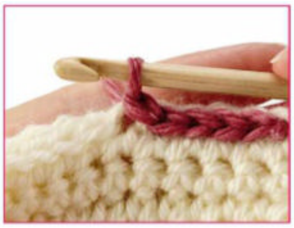
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A SLIP STITCH SEAM



1 First, make sure you fasten off, weave in ends and block pieces. Place pieces RS together. Insert hook into the first stitch on both pieces. Make a slip knot and place it onto the hook.



2 Pull the slip knot through both stitches to bring it to the front. Now insert hook into the second stitch of both layers and work a slip stitch. Work a slip stitch in the third stitches of both layers.

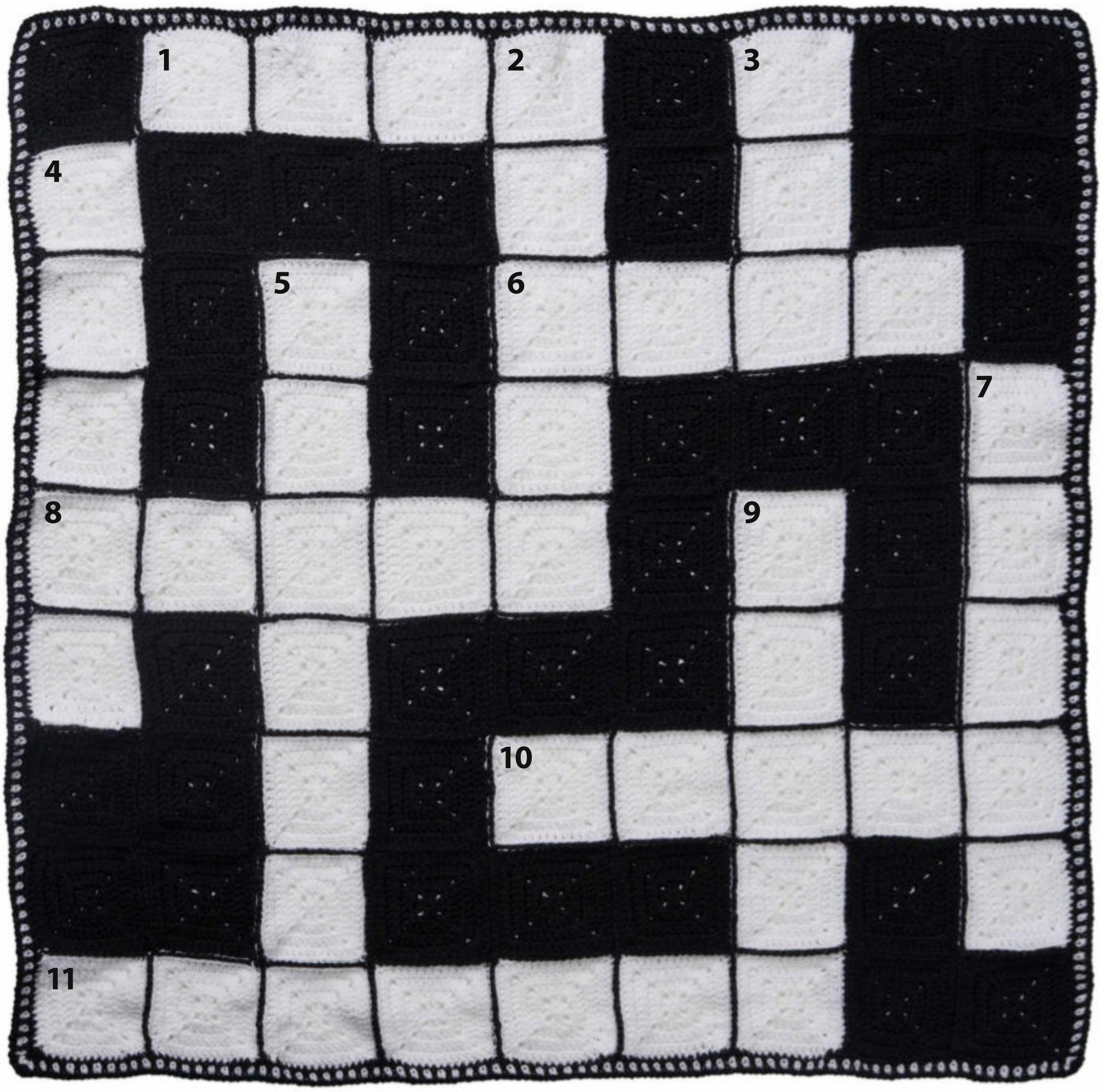


3 Continue working slip sts along the edge, as far as you need to. Fasten off, weave in ends, open out the seam and lightly press from the WS.

4 From the RS, the slip stitch seam forms an 'invisible' join (see above). It forms a firm, flat seam that doesn't give much stretch. It's best to use a matching yarn.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE BLANKET

Now you've crocheted it, see if you can solve our crossword pattern



ACROSS

1 Another term for shawl (4)

6 A short infinity scarf (4)

8 Diagram of a pattern (5)

10 Worn around the neck for warmth (5)

11 Instructions for project (7)

DOWN

2 Edge stitch that creates a point (5)

3 Horizontal line of stitches (3)

4 Shape a finished project (5)

5 A bed covering for warmth (7)

7 Crochet in a skilful way (5)

9 Stitch to begin a project (5)

SURFACE CROCHET THE ANSWERS USING DK BLACK YARN

Solutions on page 31

CROCHET KALEIDOSCOPE

All of these crochet terms can be found in this wordsearch

D	E	T	A	I	L	D	M	O	T	I	F	C	T	T
C	T	X	I	V	C	N	O	E	K	G	T	I	A	E
A	F	J	E	N	N	O	K	I	C	R	R	T	I	T
L	A	C	L	T	T	S	L	F	L	A	A	S	S	A
A	I	O	A	M	A	R	I	L	N	Y	L	I	R	C
D	R	L	B	B	J	L	I	G	A	H	L	T	A	I
N	I	O	O	T	E	W	I	C	S	R	A	R	T	L
A	S	U	R	T	N	S	O	I	A	F	W	A	N	E
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M	E	F	T	D	P	L	Y	B	F	J	E	U	F	U
Z	G	U	E	L	E	G	A	R	M	E	N	T	C	N
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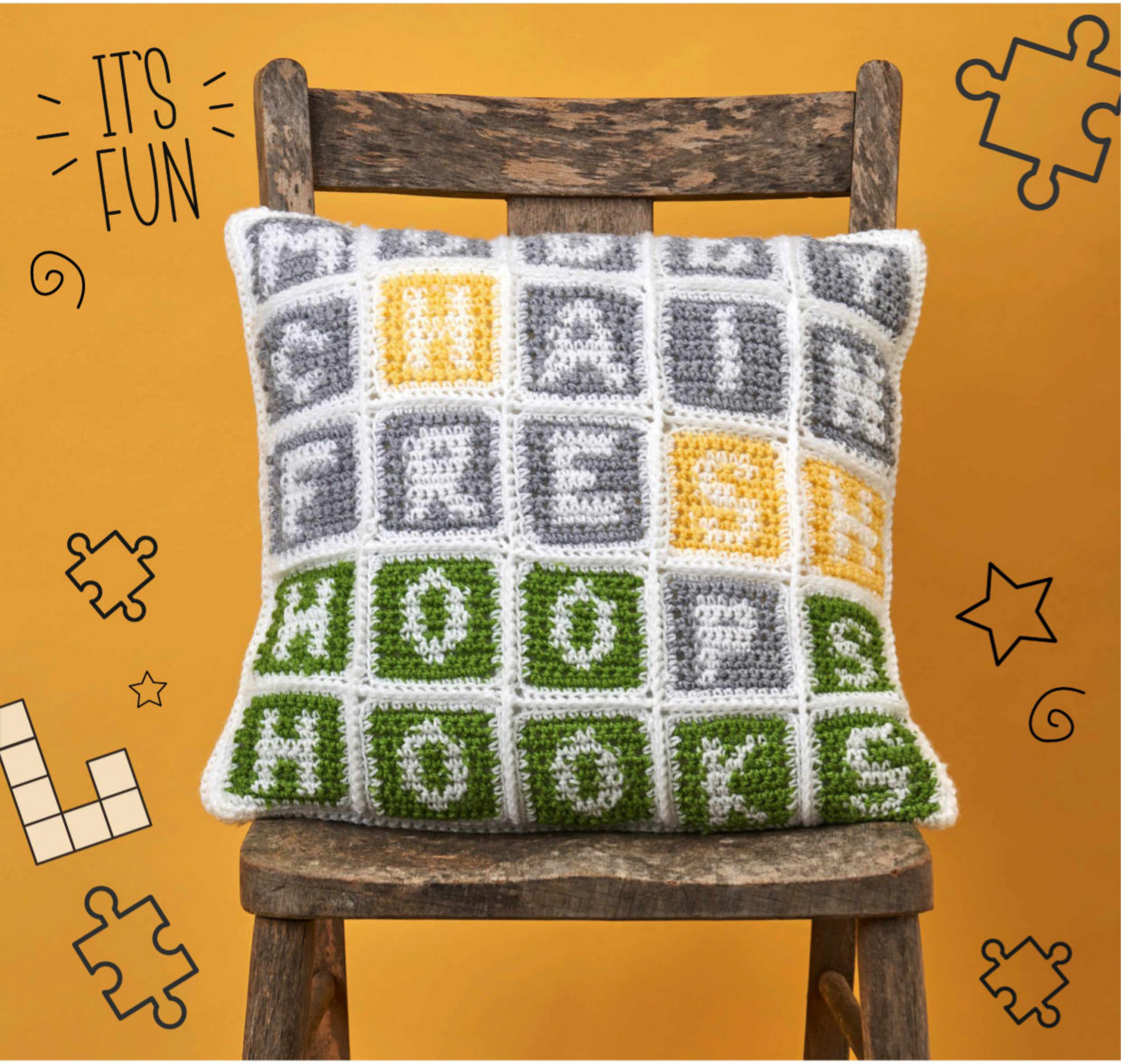
R	M	X	M	H	M	R	O	F	E	E	R	F	Q	Q
X	C	E	J	E	W	E	L	L	E	R	Y	T	M	U
T	D	E	T	A	N	R	O	C	A	B	L	E	K	E

ARTISTIC
BASKET
CABLE
COLLAR
COLOURFUL
COMPLEX
CREATION
CUFFS
DELICATE
DESIGN
DETAIL
DOILY
ELABORATE
EMBELLISH
FAIR ISLE
FILLET
FREEFORM
GARMENT
INTARSIA
INTRICATE
JEWELLERY
LACE
MANDALA
MOTIF
ORNATE
PATTERN
TAPESTRY
TUNISIAN
UNIQUE
WALL ART

Solutions on page 31



NEW OBSESSION

If you're hooked on online word games, try this clever cushion by Marianne Rawlins

EASY PEASY ☆★☆

DK WEIGHT

4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Yarnsmiths Create DK
  (100% acrylic, 100g/290m)
  2 balls of Grass Green (3200)
  1 ball of each:
  Light Grey Heather (3020)
  White (3040)
  Lemon Yellow (3170)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A cushion pad, 50x50cm

For yarn stockists contact Wool Warehouse 01926 882818 www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

Letter Square measures approx 9x9cm (3¾x3¾in) before joining

11 sts and 11 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Cushion measure 50x50cm (19¾x19¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 86 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Feed your word game addiction both on and off the internet by making this fun cushion your next WIP. Make it multiple times and gift a cushion to each of the puzzle fans in your friend group – we're sure there are at least a few who log on to play every day!

NOTES

The Front of the Cushion is made up of 25 Letter Squares. All Squares are worked in rows. There are Charts on page 4 for each Letter. Each small square represents 1dc. Read all RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right. Change colour on the final yrh before colour change is indicated. Carry the unused colours across the top of the sts, enclosing the strand as you work. The M Chart has been written out in full to guide you.

Once all the Letter Squares are made, they are joined into a 5x5 formation, using the image as a guide.

The Back is made in one piece and joined to the Front at the end.

WORD GAME CUSHION

FRONT

LETTER SQUARES (MAKE 25)

Make 1 M, U, Y, C, A, I, N, F, R, E and P using Light Grey Heather as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

Make 2 D using Light Grey Heather as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

Make 2 H using Lemon Yellow as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

Make 1 S using Lemon Yellow as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

Make 1 K using Grass Green as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

Make 2 H using Grass Green as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

Make 2 S using Grass Green as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

Make 4 O using Grass Green as Yarn A and White as Yarn B.

LETTER M

Using Light Grey Heather, ch11.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [10 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in first st, change to White, dc in next 2 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in next 4 sts, change to White, dc in next 2 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in final st, turn.

Rows 3-4 As Row 2.

Row 5 Ch2, dc in first st, (change to White, dc in next 2 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in next st) 3 times, turn.

Rows 6-7 Ch1, dc in first st, change to White, dc in next 8 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in final st, turn.

Row 8 Ch1, dc in first st, change to White, dc in next 3 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in next 2 sts, change to White, dc in next 3 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in final st, turn.

Row 9 Ch1, dc in first st, change to White, dc in next 2 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in next 4 sts, change to White, dc in next 2 sts, change to Light Grey Heather, dc in final st, turn.

Row 10 Ch1, dc in each st across.

Fasten off.

JOIN SQUARES

Using White and with RS facing out, dc the Letter Squares together using the image as a guide. Once joined the words will read: Muddy, Chain, Fresh, Hoops and Hooks.

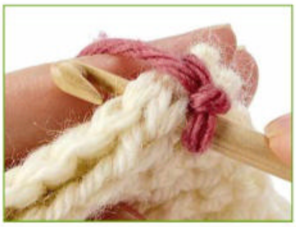
EDGING

Join White in any corner on Front.

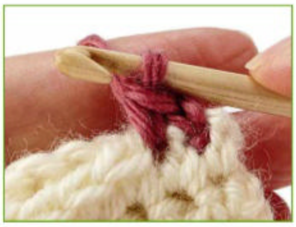
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, *3dc in corner, pm in second dc of each 3-dc group 53dc evenly across to next corner; rep from * 3 times more, ss to beg dc. [224 sts]

Round 2 Ch1, (dc in each st to marker, 3dc in

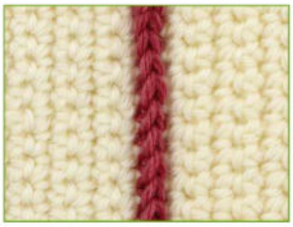
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A DOUBLE CROCHET SEAM



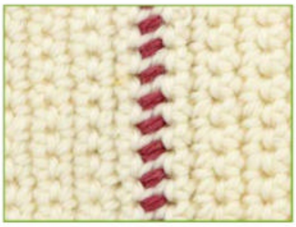
1 First, make sure you fasten off, weave in ends and block pieces. Place pieces WS together. With a slip knot on the hook, insert it into the far right stitch on both pieces, work a slip st.



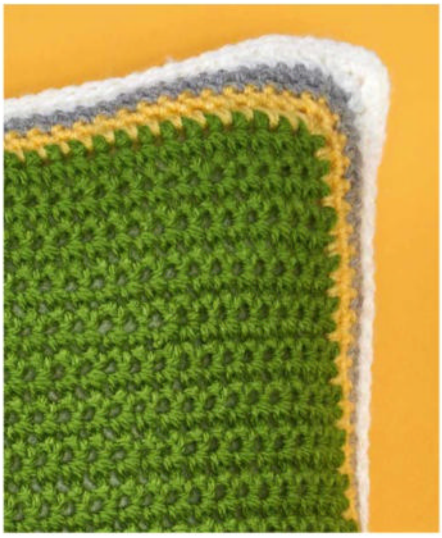
2 Make 1ch (the t-ch for dc). Insert hook into the second stitch of both layers and work a dc stitch. Work more dc stitches in this way along the edge, as far as you need to.



3 Fasten off, weave in ends, open out the seam and lightly press from the WS. This makes a raised seam for a decorative effect on the RS (see above), using any colour of yarn.



4 In step 1, if you place the pieces with RS together and work the seam, you'll create a more subtle effect on the RS (see above), with the raised seam on the WS.



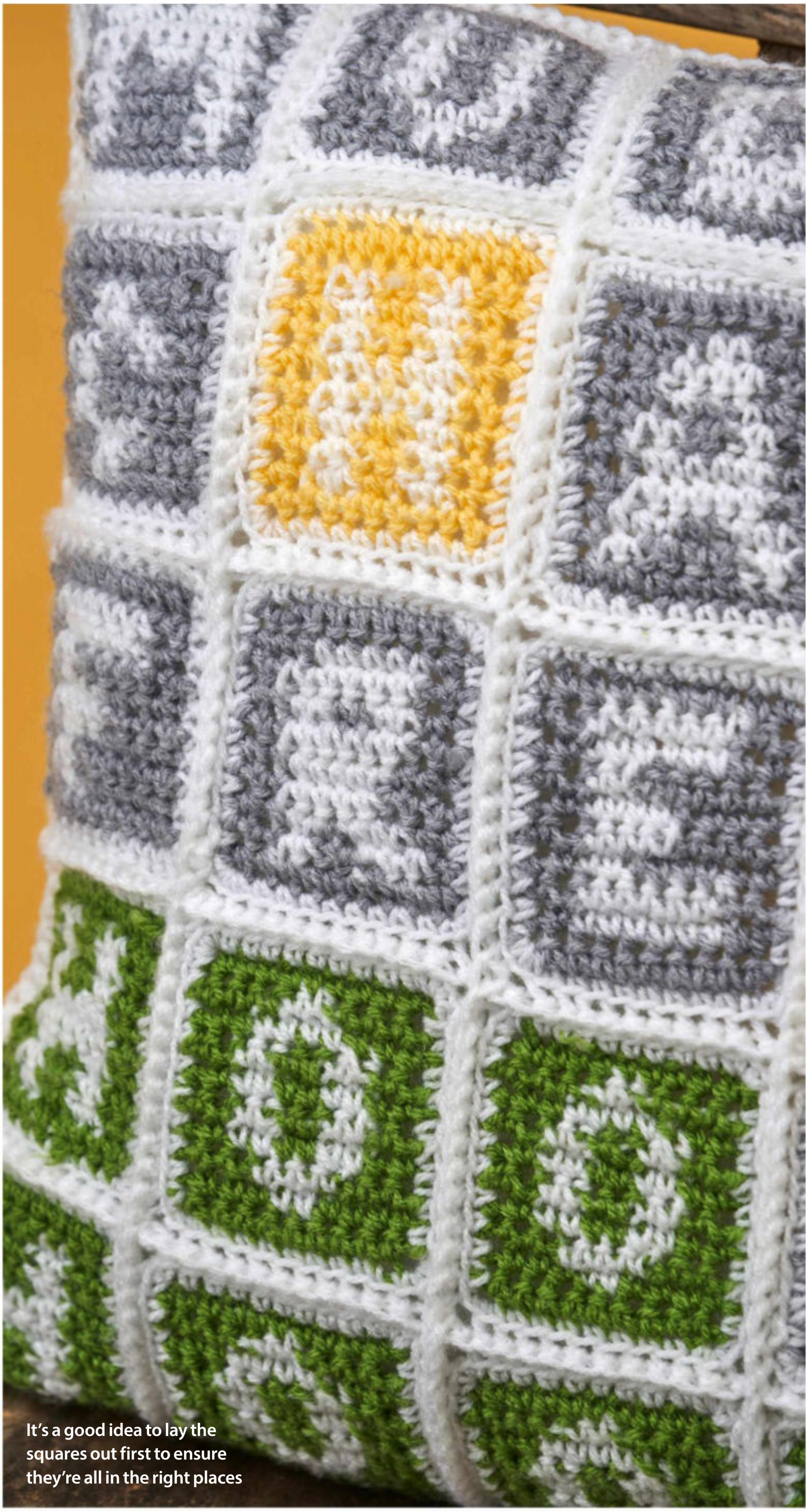
The main part of the back is made in one shade and a contrasting border is added

marker) rep around, ss to beg dc. [232 sts]
Rounds 3-4 As Round 2. [248 sts]

BACK
Using Grass Green, ch51.
Row 1 Dc in dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [50 sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st across, turn.
Rows 3-50 As Row 2.
Fasten off.

EDGING
Join Lemon Yellow in any corner.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, *3dc in corner, pm in second dc of each 3-dc group, 49dc evenly across to next corner; rep from * 3 times more, ss to beg dc. [208 sts]
Round 2 Ch1, (dc in each st to marker, 3dc in marker) rep around, ss to beg dc. [216 sts]
Fasten off.
Join Light Grey Heather in any st.
Rounds 3-4 As Round 2. [232 sts]
Fasten off.
Join White in any st.
Rounds 5-6 As Round 2. [248 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

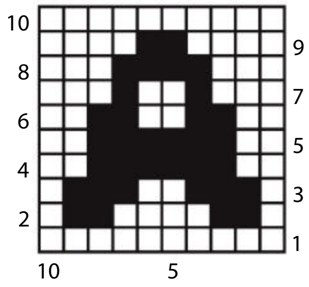
TO MAKE UP
Place Front and Back together with RS facing out. Work next round through both pieces to join. Join White in any corner.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, *3dc in corner, dc evenly across to next corner; rep from * around inserting cushion pad before joining final side, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.



It's a good idea to lay the squares out first to ensure they're all in the right places

Word game letters

A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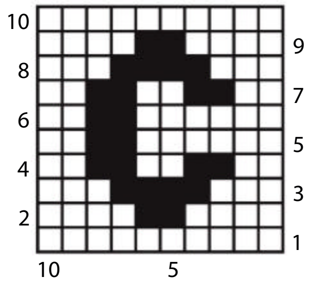
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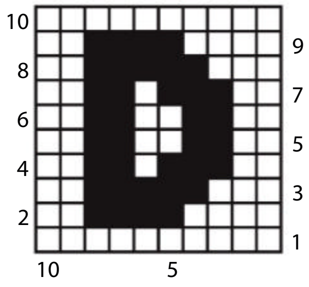
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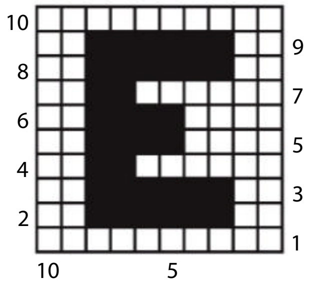
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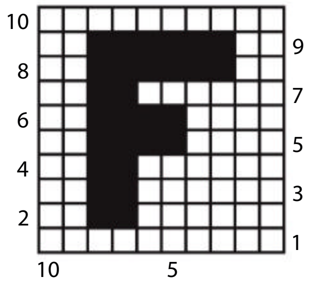
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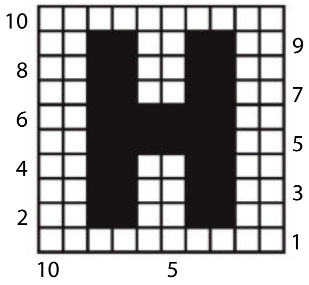
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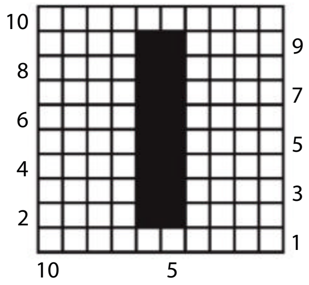
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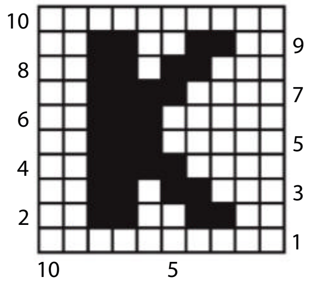
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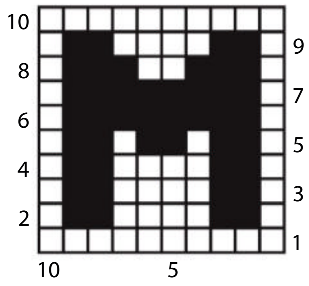
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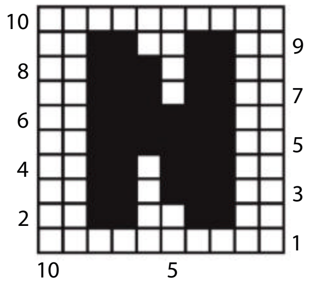
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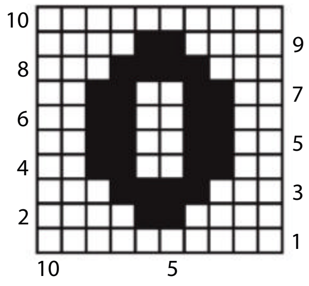
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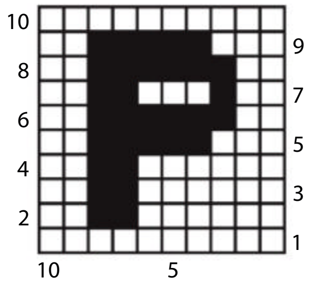
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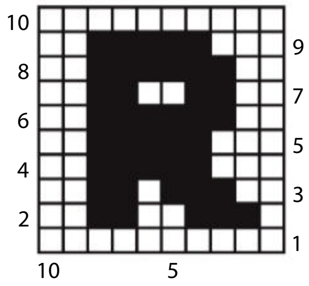
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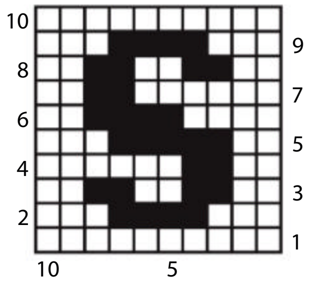
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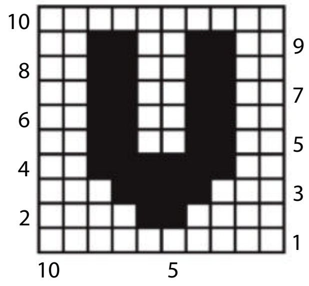
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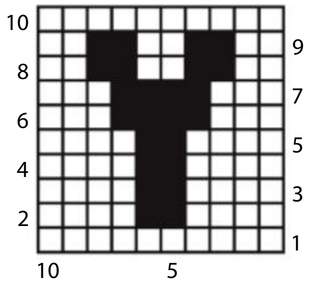
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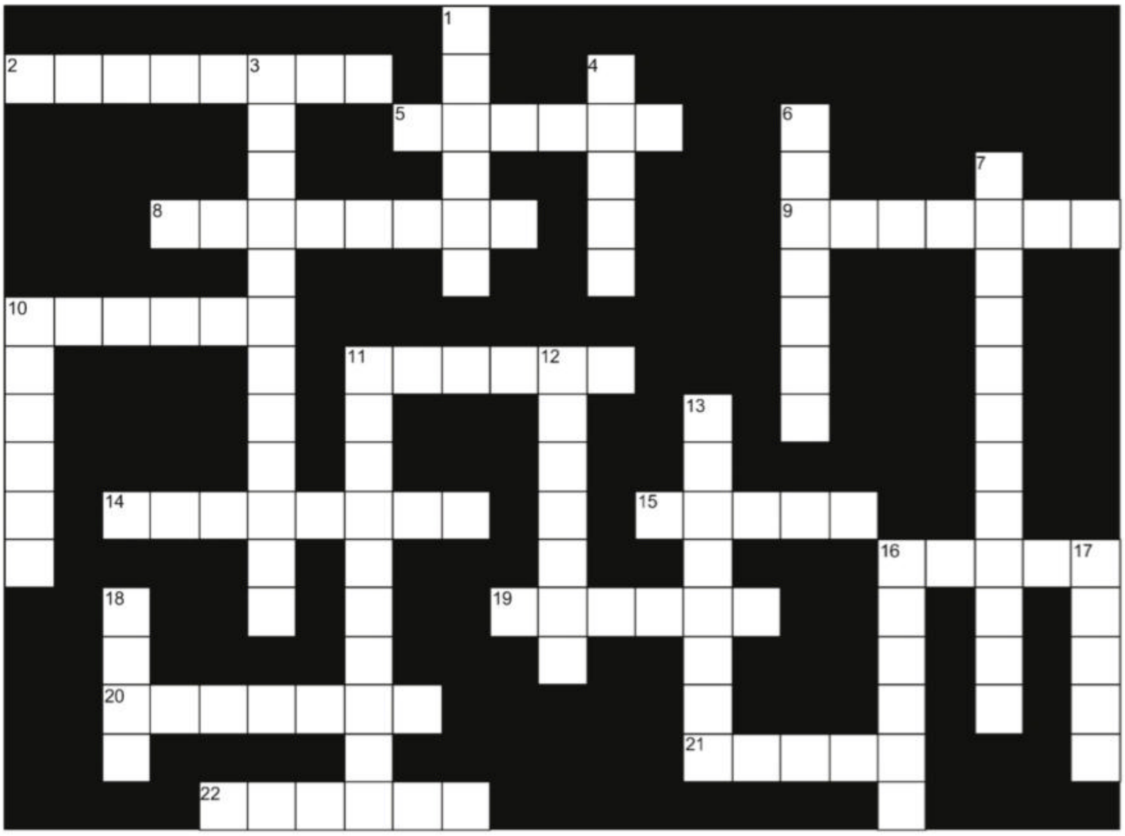
Key

☐ Yarn A

■ Yarn B

ELEVATE YOUR WARDROBE

How well do you know clothing and fabric crochet terms?



ACROSS

2 Garment with an open front (8)

5 Loose-fitting garment that slips over the head (6)

8 Crochet with a long hook, resembles knitting (8)

9 Organic or untreated (7)

10 Bulky-weight yarn (6)

11 A bag carried in your hand or under your arm (6)

14 Sleeveless dress worn over a shirt (8)

15 Stitch that resembles a braid or twisted rope (5)

16 Covering for feet (5)

19 Long-sleeved knitted or crochet top, sweater (6)

20 Sleeveless slipover shirt (4, 3)

21 Loose-fitting shirt that extends past the waist (5)

DOWN

1 Pattern found on many summer dresses (6)

3 Crochet pattern with centre ring and cluster stitches, nostalgic feel (12)

4 Accessory draped over the shoulder (5)

6 Usually a two-colour checked pattern (7)

7 Lace-making technique created by making and joining motifs (5, 7)

10 Decorative trim added to clothing around the neckline (6)

11 Tapestry, intarsia, Fair Isle (10)

12 Worn over a swimsuit (7, 2)

13 Jewellery worn around the wrist (8)

16 Crochet this first for gauge (6)

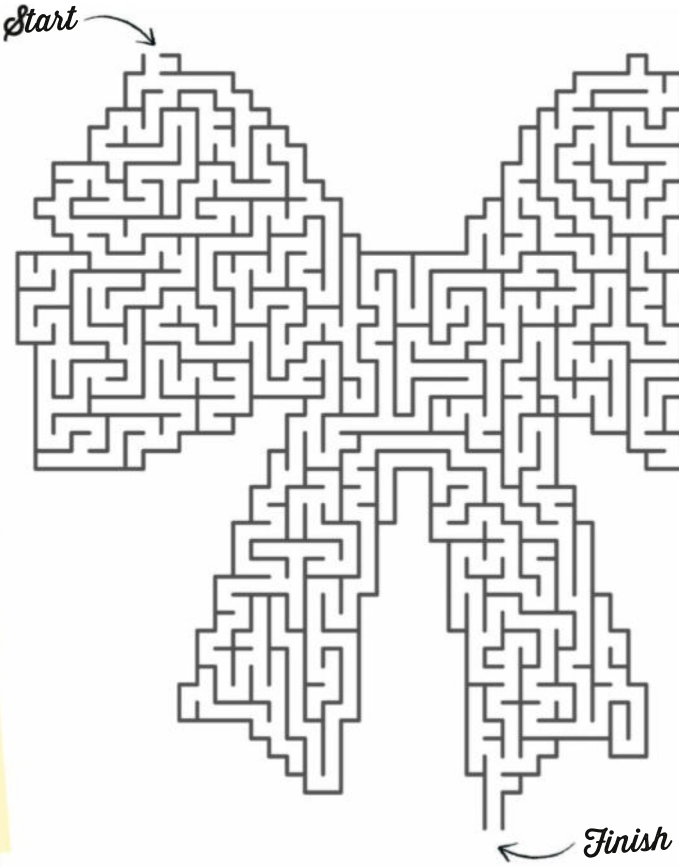
17 Garment that covers the shoulders and upper back (5)

18 Reusable shopping bag with handles (4)

Solutions on page 31

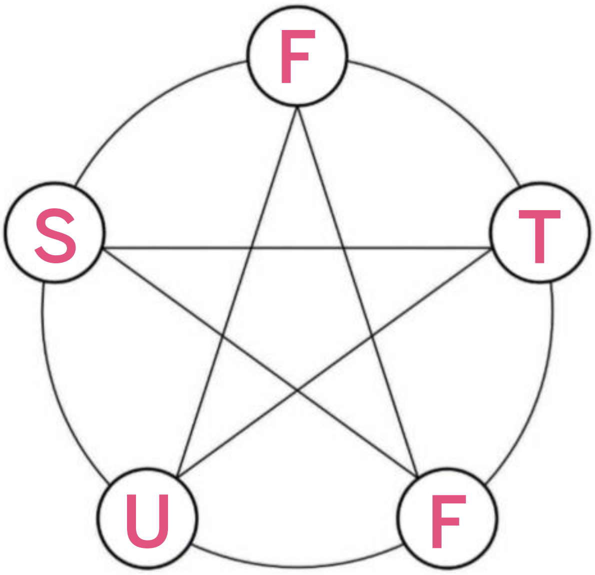
BOW MAZE

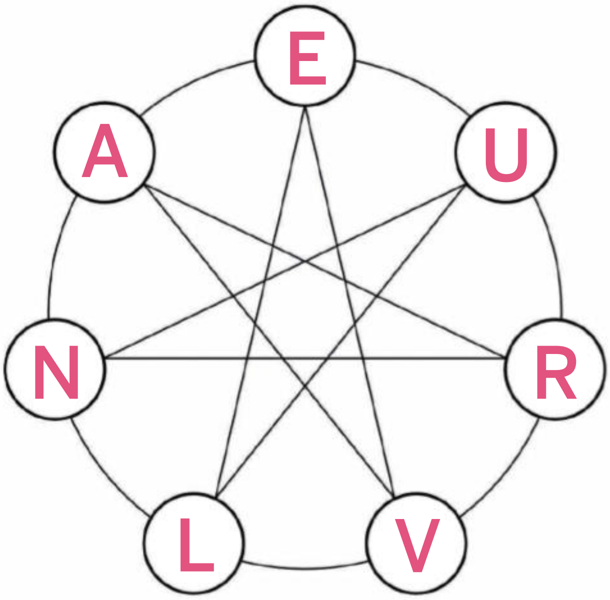
Plot your way through the twisting paths of this pretty bow maze


Start
Finish

WORD STARS

Unscramble the letters to find two crochet-related words

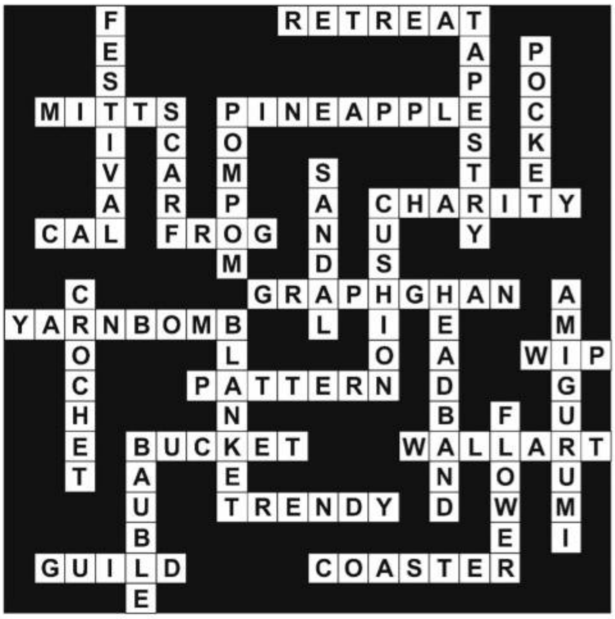




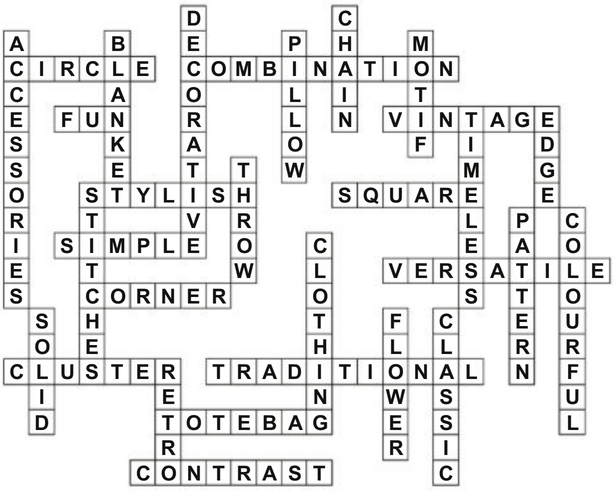
Solutions on page 31

Solutions

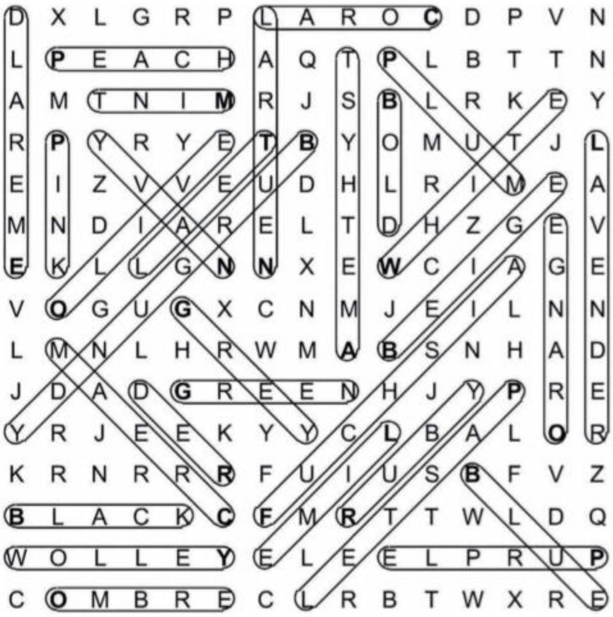
Page 8 CROCHET FUN


RETREAT
FESTIVAL
TAPESTRY
POCKET
MITTS
SCARF
PINEAPPLE
POMPOM
SANDAL
CHARITY
CAL
FROG
CUSHION
GRAPHGHAN
YARNBOMB
CROCHET
BLANKET
AMIGURUMI
WIP
PATTERN
HEADBAND
FLOWER
BUCKET
WALLART
BAUBLE
TRENDY
GUILD
COASTER

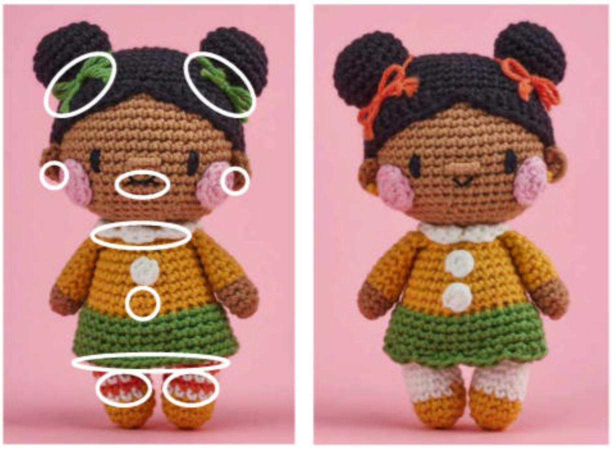
Page 9 GORGEOUS GRANNY


ACCESSORIES
BLANKET
DECORATIVE
PILLOW
CHAIN
MOTIF
CIRCLE
COMBINATION
FUN
VINTAGE
EDGE
TIMELESS
STYLISH
THROW
SQUARE
STITCH
SIMPLE
PATTERN
COLOURFUL
CLOTHING
VERSATILE
CORNER
SOLID
FLOWER
CLASSIC
CLUSTER
TRADITIONAL
RETRO
TOTEBAG
CONTRAST

Page 10 HOOKED ON COLOUR


D X L G R P L A R O C D P V N
L P E A C H A Q T P L B T T N
A M T N I M R J S B L R K E Y
R P Y R Y E T B Y O M U T J L
E I Z V V E U D H L R I M E A
M N D I A R E L T D H Z G E V
E K L L G N N X E W C I A G E
V O G U G X C N M J E I L N N
L M N L H R W M A B S N H A D
J D A D G R E E N H J Y P R E
Y R J E E K Y Y C L B A L O R
K R N R R R F U I U S B F V Z
B L A C K C F M R T T W L D Q
W O L L E Y E L E E L P R U P
C O M B R E C L R B T W X R E

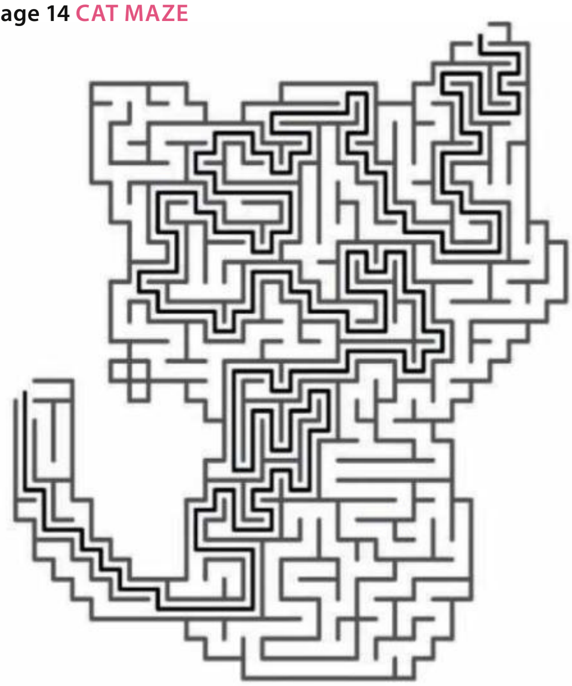
Page 14 SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



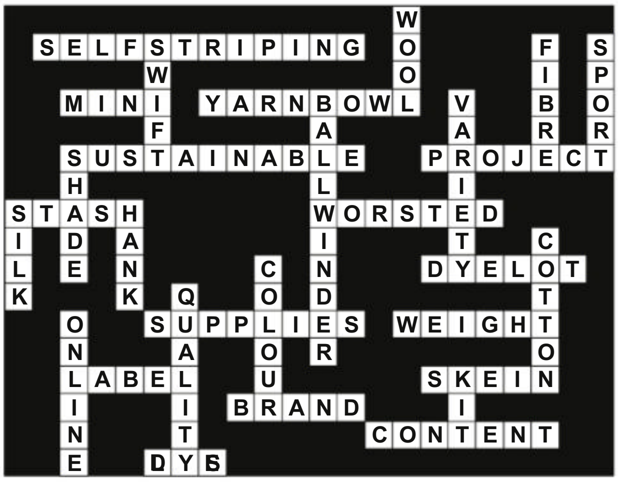
Page 14 WORD STAR

ANSWER: TENSION

Page 14 CAT MAZE



Page 15 YARN SHOPPING


WOOL
SELFSTRIPING
FIBRE
SPORT
SWIFT
MINI
YARNBOWL
VARIEGATED
BALLWINDER
SUSTAINABLE
PROJECT
SHADE
STASH
HANK
SILK
WORSTED
COTTON
DYELOT
COLOUR
QUALITY
SUPPLIES
WEIGHT
ONLINE
LABEL
SKEIN
BRAND
CONTENT
DYE

Solutions

Page 16 WORDOKU

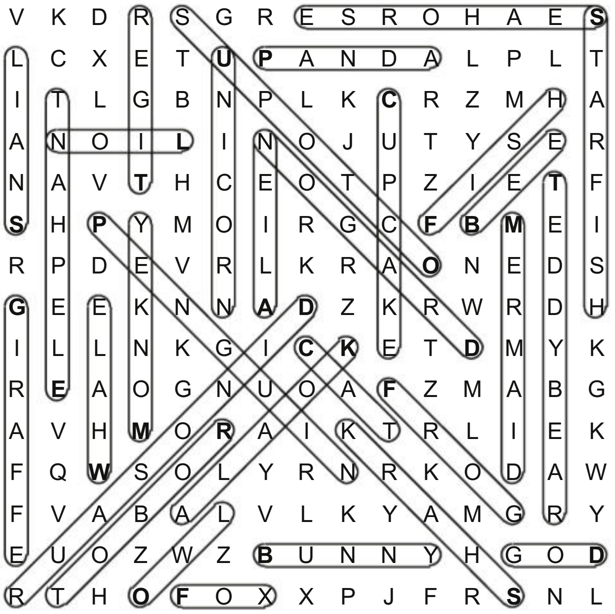
K	**L**	B	**A**	F	**U**	**S**	**T**	**E**
E	T	A	B	**S**	K	F	**U**	**L**
U	F	S	T	**L**	E	A	**K**	**B**
F	A	K	L	T	B	**U**	**E**	**S**
B	S	E	**U**	**K**	F	L	A	T
L	**U**	T	S	E	A	**K**	**B**	F
S	**K**	F	**E**	**U**	T	**B**	L	A
A	**E**	U	**F**	B	L	**T**	**S**	K
T	B	L	**K**	A	S	E	**F**	**U**

R	F	**K**	**N**	Y	A	C	O	W
C	A	**W**	K	R	**O**	N	**F**	Y
O	N	Y	F	W	C	**K**	**A**	**R**
N	C	O	W	**F**	R	**A**	Y	K
F	Y	R	A	**N**	K	O	**W**	**C**
K	W	A	O	**C**	**Y**	F	**R**	**N**
A	O	**C**	Y	**K**	W	R	N	F
Y	R	F	C	A	**N**	W	K	O
W	K	**N**	**R**	O	F	Y	C	**A**

T	**I**	A	V	O	E	**U**	R	F
R	O	**V**	T	**U**	F	E	**I**	A
E	F	**U**	A	I	**R**	**T**	**O**	V
U	**R**	E	**I**	A	T	**V**	F	O
A	**V**	**F**	E	**R**	**O**	I	T	U
I	T	O	F	V	**U**	**A**	**E**	R
V	**E**	**T**	R	**F**	A	O	**U**	I
F	U	**I**	**O**	E	V	**R**	A	T
O	A	**R**	**U**	**T**	I	**F**	V	E

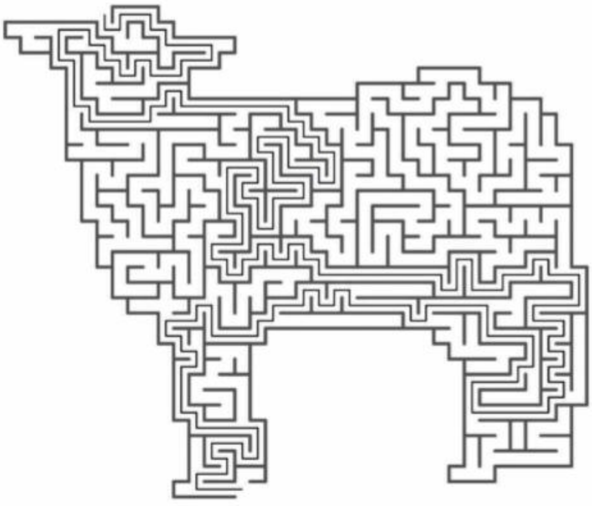
A	H	**E**	**T**	C	M	**R**	S	N
R	**N**	M	**H**	E	S	C	A	T
T	**S**	C	A	R	**N**	H	**E**	**M**
N	C	S	E	T	H	M	R	**A**
H	R	T	M	**A**	**C**	S	**N**	E
E	**M**	A	**N**	S	R	**T**	**C**	**H**
M	E	R	C	H	A	N	T	S
C	**T**	**N**	S	M	**E**	A	H	R
S	**A**	H	R	N	T	E	M	**C**

Page 17 CROCHET COMPANION



V	K	D	R	S	G	R	E	S	R	O	H	A	E	**S**
L	C	X	E	T	**U**	**P**	A	N	D	A	L	P	L	T
I	T	L	G	B	N	P	L	K	**C**	R	Z	M	H	A
A	N	O	I	**L**	I	N	O	J	U	T	Y	S	E	R
N	A	V	**T**	H	C	E	O	T	P	Z	I	E	**T**	F
S	H	**P**	Y	M	O	I	R	G	C	**F**	**B**	**M**	E	I
R	P	D	E	V	R	L	K	R	A	**O**	N	E	D	S
G	E	E	K	N	N	**A**	**D**	Z	K	R	W	R	D	H
I	L	L	N	K	G	I	**C**	**K**	E	T	**D**	M	Y	K
R	**E**	A	O	G	N	U	O	A	**F**	Z	M	A	B	G
A	V	H	**M**	O	**R**	A	I	K	T	R	L	I	E	K
F	Q	**W**	S	O	L	Y	R	N	R	K	O	D	A	W
F	V	A	B	A	L	V	L	K	Y	A	M	G	R	Y
E	U	O	Z	W	Z	**B**	U	N	N	Y	H	G	O	**D**
R	T	H	**O**	**F**	O	X	X	P	J	F	R	**S**	N	L

Page 18 SHEEP MAZE

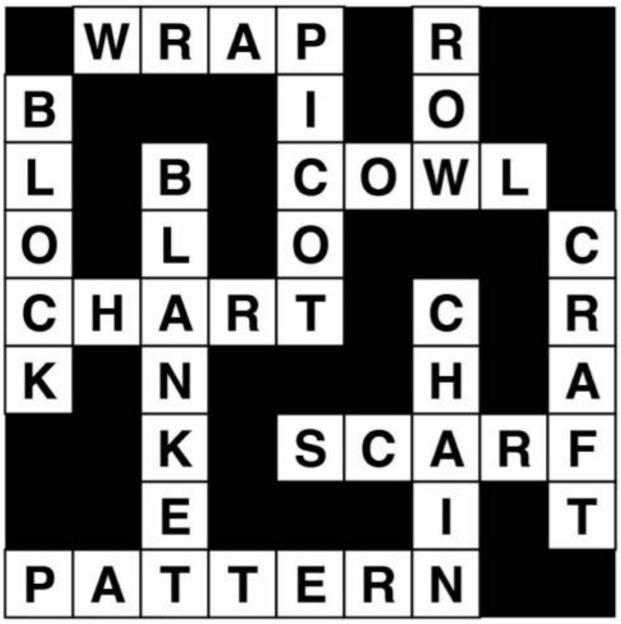


Page 18 WORD STARS

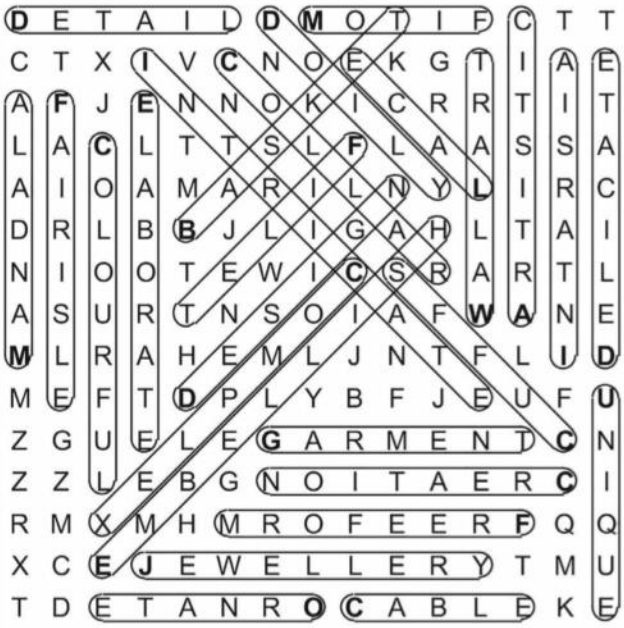
ANSWERS: STASHBUSTER & IDEAS

Solutions

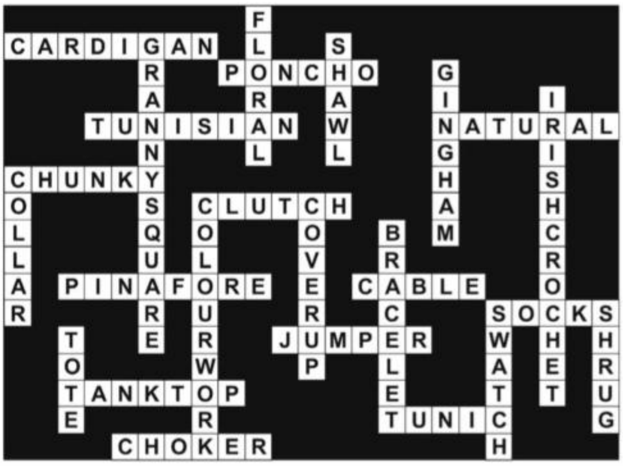
Page 21 **CROCHET CROSSWORD**



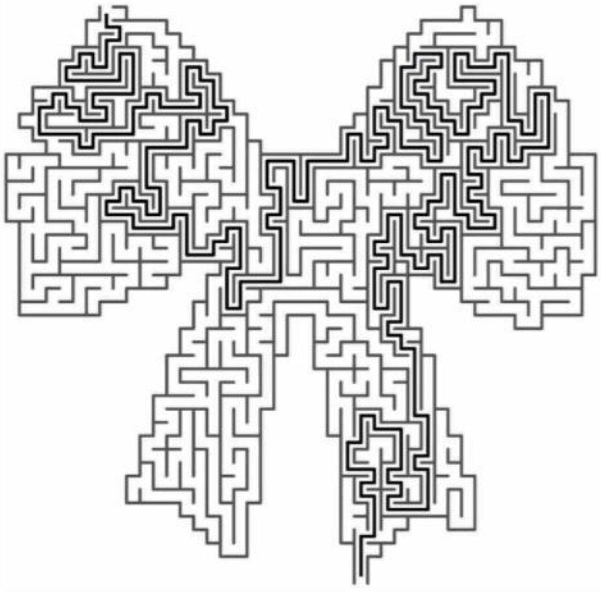
Page 22 **CROCHET KALEIDOSCOPE**



Page 27 **ELEVATE YOUR WARDROBE**



Page 28 **BOW MAZE**



Page 28 **WORD STARS**

ANSWERS: STUFF & UNRAVEL

Simply Crochet
SCTREBLEMAKERS

JOIN US ONLINE!

If you're looking to socialise with like-minded crocheters, then make sure you join our SCtreblemakers Facebook group – *the* place to share pictures of your makes, get pattern recommendations and advice, and generally talk about how much you love *Simply Crochet* magazine. With over 6.4k members, it's a bustling crochet forum full of friendly fellow hooksters. Join in and share your finished puzzle projects or discuss the puzzles you've completed. We look forward to chatting with you on there!

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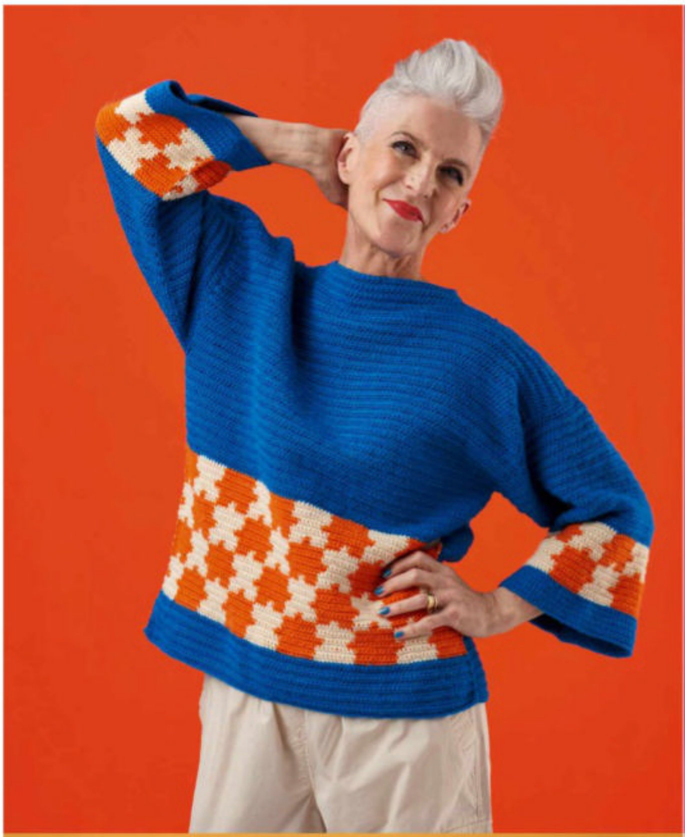

CHAIN
FRESH
HOOPS
HOOKS

Simply Crochet

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